Numbers Game in House

173	voted YES
32	voted NO
1	abstained
6	present but did not vote
20	absent
17	hours of debates
7	voted NO in '05, but YES in '06

COMPILED BY MARICAR TOLOSA, PDI RESEARCH

SPORTS / A24

San Miguel-RP team nips Ginebra to gain Brunei caging semis

WORLD / A22

US Congress slams faulty intel on Iran

BUSINESS / B1

Manufacturing output dips; production volume slid 4.3% in June

METRO / A19

Abuse charges to be filed vs Boys Town OIC, 5 volunteers

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Friday, August 25, 2006 ★★ 8 s Vol. 21 / No. 258 P18 website: www.inq7.net

Amnesty Int'l says Israel committed war crimes

BEIRUT, LEBANON—AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL on Wednesday accused Israel of committing war crimes in its monthlong battle with Hezbollah, saying its bombing campaign amounted to indiscriminate attacks on Lebanon's civilian infrastructure and population.

"Many of the violations examined in this report are war crimes that give rise to individual

AMNESTY/ A6

RAFFY LERMA

LOSING battle. Minority Floor Leader Francis Escudero wipes his face as he leaves the Batasan plenary hall after the impeachment complaint was laid to rest on Thursday.

WINNERS' podium. Majority Leader Prospero Nograles (from left), Rep. Edcel Lagman, Speaker Jose de Venecia, Rep. Simeon Datumanong and Deputy Speaker Raul del Mar are all smiles at the funeral of the impeachment complaint. RAFFY LERMA

'History will say who's right'

GMA foes unfazed; impeach bid buried

By Michael Lim Ubac and Philip C. Tubeza

THE END FINALLY came for a citizen-backed initiative to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo the second time around.

After 17 hours of debate and voting, the President's allies in the House of Representatives entombed at 10 a.m. yesterday the impeachment complaint which, the opposition said, could have given Ms Arroyo a chance to clear doubts about her legitimacy.

Both the administration and opposition camps claimed a moral victory, insisting that in the final analysis it would be history that would judge whether the 13th Congress acted with fairness not only to Ms Arroyo but to the nation witnessing the televised proceedings.

With a vote of 173-32, with one abstention, the House upheld

HISTORY/ A4

EDWIN BACASMAS

LOCAL residents get down on all fours to clean up the oil slick along the shore of Barangay Tando, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras, on Thursday. They were hired and are being paid P200 a day by Petron.

Guimaras sea grass is dying

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—THE SIGHT SADdened the scientist.

The white tiny objects floating in the oily water were male flowers from a species of sea grass. Each white spot contained as many as 400 to 500 pollen grains, which could have fertilized the female flowers of the sea grass.

But the oil floating in the water had prevented the male flowers from drifting and bumping into the female flowers, thereby failing to initiate the reproduction process.

Josette Biyo, a multi-awarded teacher and now acting director of the Philippine Science High School in Western Visayas, said she was baffled by the phenomenon she observed in Tando, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras, one of the areas worst hit by the oil spill from the sunken MT Solar I.

Biyo said chemicals in the bunker fuel oil might have prompted the pollination by the sea grass as a final act before dying.

"It must be an immediate death for many sea grass beds in Tando. Those spared are dying and may not live long," said Biyo.

She said 70 percent of the sea grass meadows along Tando's one-km coastline were affected. Their demise means the loss of fish, shellfish and other marine

GUIMARAS/ A10

Oil spill threatens giant clams

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—WITH THE ONset of the southwest monsoon, the oil spill could hit the last of the giant clams in the Sagay Marine Reserve in Sagay City 83 km north of here, according to marine biologist Angel Alcala.

"These are the last of the endangered giant clams of the Visayan Sea," Alcala told the INQUIRER.

More than 35 years of preservation work at the Sagay Marine Reserve will go down the drain if the oil spill hits it, he said.

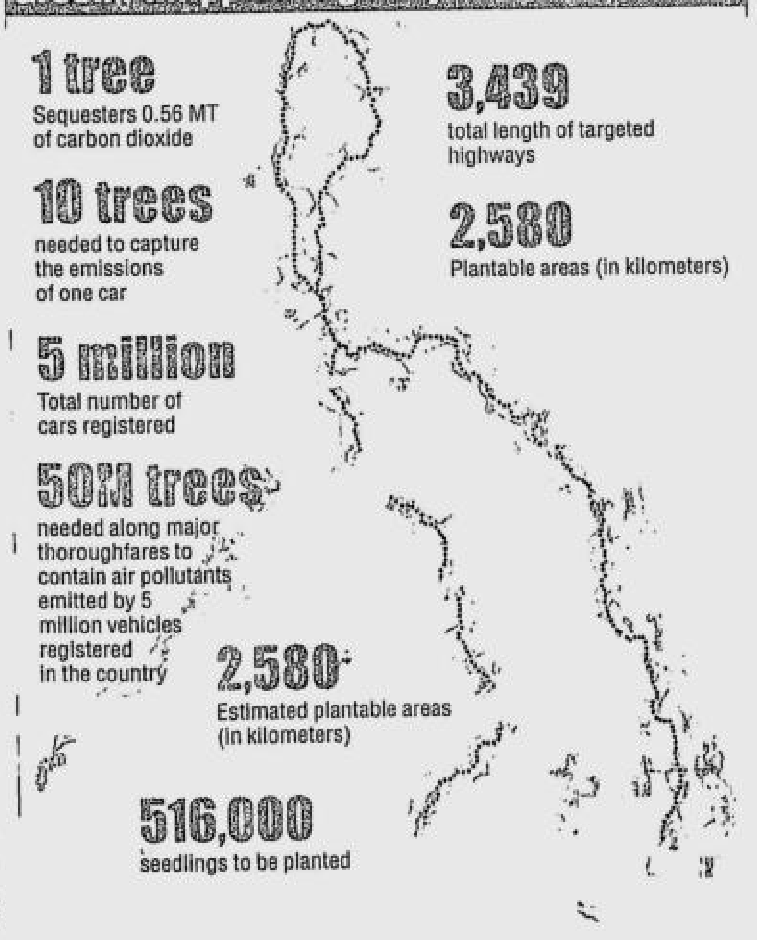
Alcala, former environment secretary and director of the Silliman University-Angelo King Center for Research and Environmental Management, said the remaining oil in the sunken tanker off Guimaras should be retrieved before all of it leaked out and caused widespread ecological damage.

Corals could take about two decades to recover, he said.

As long as the oil stays on top of the water, the fish and other

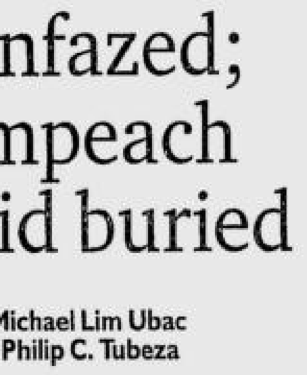
OIL SPILL/ A10

Green Philippine Highways


1 tree
Sequesters 0.56 MT of carbon dioxide
10 trees
needed to capture the emissions of one car
5 million
Total number of cars registered
50M trees
needed along major thoroughfares to contain air pollutants emitted by 5 million vehicles registered in the country
3,439
total length of targeted highways
2,580
Plantable areas (in kilometers)
2,580
Estimated plantable areas (in kilometers)
516,000
seedlings to be planted

Source: DENR

INFOGRAPHIC: ESAMBO


DAPAT MAY PENOY DIN!

Barbs, 'balut,' antics keep solons awake

By Philip C. Tubeza

TRADING BARBS AND "BAlut," the antics of bickering lawmakers kept the gallery awake during the nationally televised marathon hearing on the impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

BARBS/ A4

Filipino siblings rule US 'Talent Olympics'

By Nikko Dizon

WITH A SPLENDID BLEND OF voices, two sets of Filipino siblings reigned supreme at the World Championship of the Performing Arts (WCOPA), known as the "Talent Olympics," held recently in Hollywood, California.

With an average height of 4'11", the Cercado sisters—Almira, 18; Irene, 16; Mylene, 14, and Celina, 10—have powerful voices that won for them the gold medal in the overall vocal group junior division.

The Marquez siblings—Bev-

FILIPINO/ A6

Don't just blame armchair generals

By Cecilio T. Arillo
Contributor

(Second of a series)

IF THE STATE OF NATIONAL SEcurity is in tatters, don't just blame the armchair generals but also the inept executive and legislative officials.

In the crucial arena of national administration, these officials have the power and funding required to stifle insurgency, separatism and terrorism.

The police and the military merely implement policies; they are not in control of the levers of power. The President, the Cabinet and the members of Congress are. They control national security, contract debts, shape the budgets and decide government priorities.

While local authorities have a responsibility to maintain peace and order, they are helpless. They do not have control over their police forces.

This serious flaw has contributed to the breakdown of morale and discipline of the men in uniform, the targeting of legitimate political opposition more

DON'T/ A15

2M to plant trees along national roads

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE ROADS FROM LAOAG City in the north to Zamboanga City in the south will turn green today, literally.

Simultaneous tree-plantings in the country's 14 regions will mark the formal launch of the 3,439-km Green Philippine Highways (GPH), an ambitious long-term project of the government to combat air pollution.

"Today, the Filipino will make history by undertaking the biggest tree-planting activity," Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes said in a statement.

Around 2 million participants have officially enlisted at the offices of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources throughout the country to take part in today's tree-planting, the

2M TO PLANT/ A6

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Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol region and Eastern Visayas will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO, PDI RESEARCH/08/24/06

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Court halts ₱3-B payment to Piatco

By Nikko Dizon

THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (Miaa) yesterday finally set out to turn over to the builder of the mothballed Naia Terminal 3 the P3.3 billion that the Pasay court had ordered it to pay the consortium.

But a last-minute temporary restraining order from the Court of Appeals may have stopped the payment of the money, which is with the Land Bank of the Philippines, to the controversial Philippine International Air Terminals Inc.

Lawyer Oscar Paras, the Miaa senior assistant general manager, said he understood that "the payment was not consummated" but he referred the INQUIRER to the LandBank for confirmation.

As of press time, no confirmation could be obtained from the LandBank.

The appellate court granted the TRO on a case for review and prohibition filed by Rep. Salacnib Baterina against the Pasay Regional Trial Court which dismissed the petition of Baterina and a host of other private parties seeking to halt the case for expropriation of Naia 3 being heard by the Pasay court.

Baterina was among those who filed the motion to intervene in the case, claiming that the expropriation case should be dismissed and Piatco should not be compensated because it obtained the contract to build Naia 3 through fraud and corruption.

In its order issued yesterday, the Court of Appeals directed Pasay Judge Jesus Mupas to "cease and desist" from implementing the judgment that was under petition or from "causing payment" or proceeding with the determination of just compensation in the expropriation case.

In 2002, the Supreme Court voided Piatco's contract to build the terminal for being onerous and disadvantageous to the government.

But overlapping ownership and payments claims on the facility have prevented the government from operating Naia 3.

In December 2004, the government filed a case for expropriation with the Pasay court so it could take over Naia 3. In January 2004, the court ordered the government to pay Piatco $62.34 (about P3.3 billion) as partial payment for the facility.

In 2005, the Supreme Court gave the government the go-signal to operate the terminal but affirmed the Pasay court's order to pay Piatco an initial P3.3 billion as "just compensation."

Baterina immediately filed a motion to intervene saying it was his duty as a legislator to "curtail the disbursement without appropriation of public funds to compensate Piatco."

Meanwhile, the Pasay court had on Aug. 9 ordered the Miaa to pay Piatco the P3.3 billion so a writ of possession to the terminal could be issued in favor of the government.

Nat'l ID plan just a test run, says Biazon

By TJ Burgonio

TWO OPPOSITION SENATORS YESTERDAY said the "unified" government identification system implemented by President Macapagal-Arroyo for state workers was a test run for a more extensive, national ID system that the public would not accept.

"I don't think it serves anything other than to provide a testing mechanism on how a national ID system could be run credibly," Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said at a press forum.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., who filed a bill seeking to define the coverage of an ID system, agreed. "She's probably testing the waters," he said.

The President on Wednesday launched the "multi-purpose ID system" that would "integrate and harmonize" existing ID systems in different agencies and government-run corporations in the hope of "filling the last mile in the gap between people's needs and a streamlined government."

The National Statistics Office, tasked with testing the system, said that citizens would not be compelled to secure the ID card, and would not be denied benefits and services if they don't apply for one.

Biazon, author of a bill proposing a national ID system, praised Ms Arroyo for her initiative, but predicted that the government ID system would run into a wall of opposition as in the past, because the public did not trust the bureaucracy.

DREAMLAND
Impeachment is still a dream, at least for now, for this trio of pro-impeachment supporters, Nini Quezon-Avanceña, Josefina Lichauco and Dinky Soliman, as they take a nap during the overnight debates and voting on the report of the House justice committee rejecting the second big to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo. *(Story on Page 1)* JOAN BONDOC

Palace not giving up on counting machines

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG IS NOT GIVING UP ON the use of the automated counting machines (ACMs) in the May 2007 elections even after the Supreme Court junked the petition of lawyer Romulo Macalintal to allow their use.

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor said the Palace was now thinking of asking Congress to pass legislation mandating the use of the ACMs purchased from the Mega Pacific consortium for P1.3 billion but which had been idled by a Supreme Court ruling.

"We enjoin Congress, both administration and opposition, to discuss possible ways to modernize our electoral process and ensure clean and honest elections not only in 2007 but also in the future," Defensor said.

"The use of the machines is a decision that has to be settled in court as litigation is now in process. Only Congress may decide on their fate by having a law approved to utilize them," he said.

Defensor said that while Malacañang respected the high court's decision, this did not preclude any party from filing an appeal or a new case.

"The action taken by Attorney Macalintal is well-founded and respected by Malacañang," he said.

Flunker says she, too, got test leaks

By Alcuin Papa

ANOTHER NURSING STUDENT HAS CONfirmed having obtained a set of the leaked test questions in the last nursing licensure examinations even as a key witness, nursing student Pamela Ortega, recanted her testimony on the leakage the other day.

In her July 28 testimony before the Board of Nursing (BON), a copy of which was furnished the INQUIRER by the Professional Regulation Commission, Christie Makabenta said a friend gave her a set of review materials from the Inress Review Center, owned by former Philippine Nursing Association president George Cordero.

The review materials, Makabenta said, contained questions and answers to Test 5 (psychiatric nursing) that appeared in the last board exam.

Makabenta, an employee of the Asian Hospital's financial counselor's office, said she took her nursing degree from the Laguna Northwestern College in San Pedro, Laguna. She took the licensure exam on June 11 and 12 but failed.

Same questions

Makabenta said she enrolled for review classes at the Pentagon Review Center. She said that on June 10, a friend who was reviewing with Inress gave her a thick folder with 500 questions for Test 5.

But she claimed to have been so overwhelmed by the volume of the materials, she decided there was no time to go over them.

After the exams, she leafed through the materials and discovered that they contained the very questions that came out in the board exams.

Makabenta, who regretted not having studied the review materials, felt better for it after the leakage scandal erupted. But she has since been bothered at being in possession of the materials and decided to turn them over to the BON.

She said she was so nervous she did not even stay long enough to sign the report of the incident which the BON submitted to the PRC.

PRC Commissioner Renato Valdecantos, who headed the PRC's fact-finding committee on the alleged nursing leak, said that despite the recantation of Pamela Ortega, they feel the findings of the committee can stand.

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Melo accepts offer to head probe body

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Christian B. Esguerra

FORMER SUPREME COURT JUSTICE JOSE Melo has agreed to head an independent commission created by Malacañang to look into the unsolved killings of media people and political activists.

"President Arroyo expresses her gratitude to former Justice Melo for accepting the leadership of the new commission as we look forward to the major contributions of his team in upholding justice, the rule of law and human rights," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye told a news briefing.

Bunye said the President had chosen Melo to head the commission because of his independence and integrity.

"We believe he can hold this thing together in the investigation of various incidents attributed to the military or the police," said Bunye.

Malacañang was caught off guard by the withdrawal of Batanes Bishop Camilo Gregorio after accepting the post because of pressure from anti-government groups. But it promptly appointed Bishop Juan de Dios Pueblos as Gregorio's replacement. The 63-year-old Butuan bishop has accepted.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita has appealed to the public to give the Melo Commission a chance to do its job and stop pressuring those appointed to it from declining the appointment.

"We share the concerns of all citizens and groups over the spate of extra-judicial killings. Let us allow the commission to commence its vital work under an atmosphere of calm, judiciousness and sobriety," said Bunye.

Aside from Melo and Bishop Pueblos, Bunye said other commission members who will be taking their oath with the Supreme Court Chief Justice on Monday are National Bureau of Investigation Director Nestor Mantaring, Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuno, civic leader and UP Board of Regents member Nelia Teodoro-Gonzalez.

Pueblos said he was convinced to join the commission to help put a stop to the extra-judicial killings in the country.

"After the consultations I made with my brother bishops and also with some people, I accepted the offer not because of PGMA (President Macapagal-Arroyo) but because of the country," he said in an interview over the church-run Radio Veritas.

Gregorio declined the appointment "in deference to the autonomy" of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

Archbishop Oscar Cruz, a former CBCP president, earlier warned Gregorio that his participation in the commission might violate Church laws. Pueblos said he would try his best not to involve the CBCP in his work with the commission.

Mike Arroyo flies to Germany

FIRST GENTLEMAN JOSE MIGUEL ARROYO left last night for Germany on what he called a "mission of truth" to prove that opposition Rep. Alan Peter Cayetano was lying when he said the First Family had an account in a Munich bank.

"I am going to Munich on a mission of truth to find out [about] the so-called account that a congressman said belonged to me or my family, and for the Filipinos to know if we really own that account," said Arroyo in a predeparture press conference at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia).

Arroyo's lawyers, Jesus Santos and Romeo Macalintal, accompanied him to Germany.

Arroyo said he would be asking the bank "simple questions that would determine the veracity of Cayetano's statement."

Macalintal said Cayetano should accept as the "gospel truth" whatever information and documents they would be able to obtain from the bank after the congressman declined Arroyo's invitation to join him on the trip.

Of the six-ha property in Caloocan City that Cayetano alleged Arroyo did not declare in his statement of assets and liabilities, the First Gentleman said he did not buy the property because its title was a forgery.

"Only an idiot or a stupid man would do that [buy it]," Arroyo said. *Nikko Dizon*

Oil firms cut price by ₱1 a liter

By Abigail L. Ho

FOR A WELCOME CHANGE, OIL FIRMS YESterday brought down the prices of their gasoline and kerosene products by P1 a liter in response to the lower prices of crude and gasoline in the world market.

Initiating the rollback at 6 a.m. yesterday were Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Chevron (formerly known as Caltex) Philippines Inc. and Seaoil Petroleum Corp.

Unioil Petroleum Philippines Inc. adjusted its prices at 10 a.m., followed by Total (Philippines) Corp. and Eastern Petroleum Corp. at noon, and then Flying V later in the day.

The oil companies cited the softening prices of crude and gasoline in the world market as the reason for the price slash.

But the price of diesel fuel remained at status quo as the oil firms said diesel prices continued to escalate.

Data from the Department of Energy indicated that the regional benchmark Dubai crude reached an August average of $69.58 a barrel, from $69.17 a barrel last month.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the Mean of Platts Singapore (Mops) benchmark for refined petroleum products was priced at an average of $83.43 a barrel in the first 23 days of the month, compared with the July average of $85.50 a barrel.

The price of Mops-based diesel rose to an Aug. 1-23 average of $87.76 a barrel against the $87.37-a-barrel average registered last month.

Since the start of the year, oil firms have raised gasoline prices 18 times by a total of P9 a liter. Diesel prices have risen 15 times, by a total of P7.50 a liter, while kerosene prices have increased 19 times, by a total of P9.50 a liter.

Yesterday's rollback brings premium unleaded gasoline prices to between P42.77 and P44.50 a liter and kerosene to between P40.19 and P43 a liter. The prices include the 12-percent value-added tax.

Cops told: Get 17 suspects by Sept. 31

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE TOP BRASS barked one order to police intelligence officers and field investigators yesterday: Get 17 suspects before September ends.

A senior officer reiterated the directive issued by Philippine National Police Director General Oscar Calderon on Aug. 17 with less than six weeks to go before Ms Arroyo's deadline to solve at least 10 activist and media killings expires.

The police apparently want to do the President one better.

"The chief PNP has directed all regions to solve one case and make one arrest per region within six weeks. So that's 17 regions. That's 17 cases and 17 arrests at the minimum," said Deputy Director General Avelino Razon Jr. on the sidelines of a meeting of Task Force Usig.

Task Force Usig was the police unit formed to investigate the killings. It claimed to have solved at least two media killings since Aug. 1 when Ms Arroyo set the deadline. One of these was the murder of Tanod tabloid photographer Prudencio Melendres.

Razon said police had also filed 12 more cases and arrested three more suspects since Aug. 1 but he did not provide details.

Calderon had ordered regional commanders to "follow up the issuance of warrants of arrest for all cases already filed in court."

He had also said a regional commander's failure to solve the killings would be a basis for sacking him.

"Only a few more arrests have to be made to meet the President's deadline," Razon told reporters.

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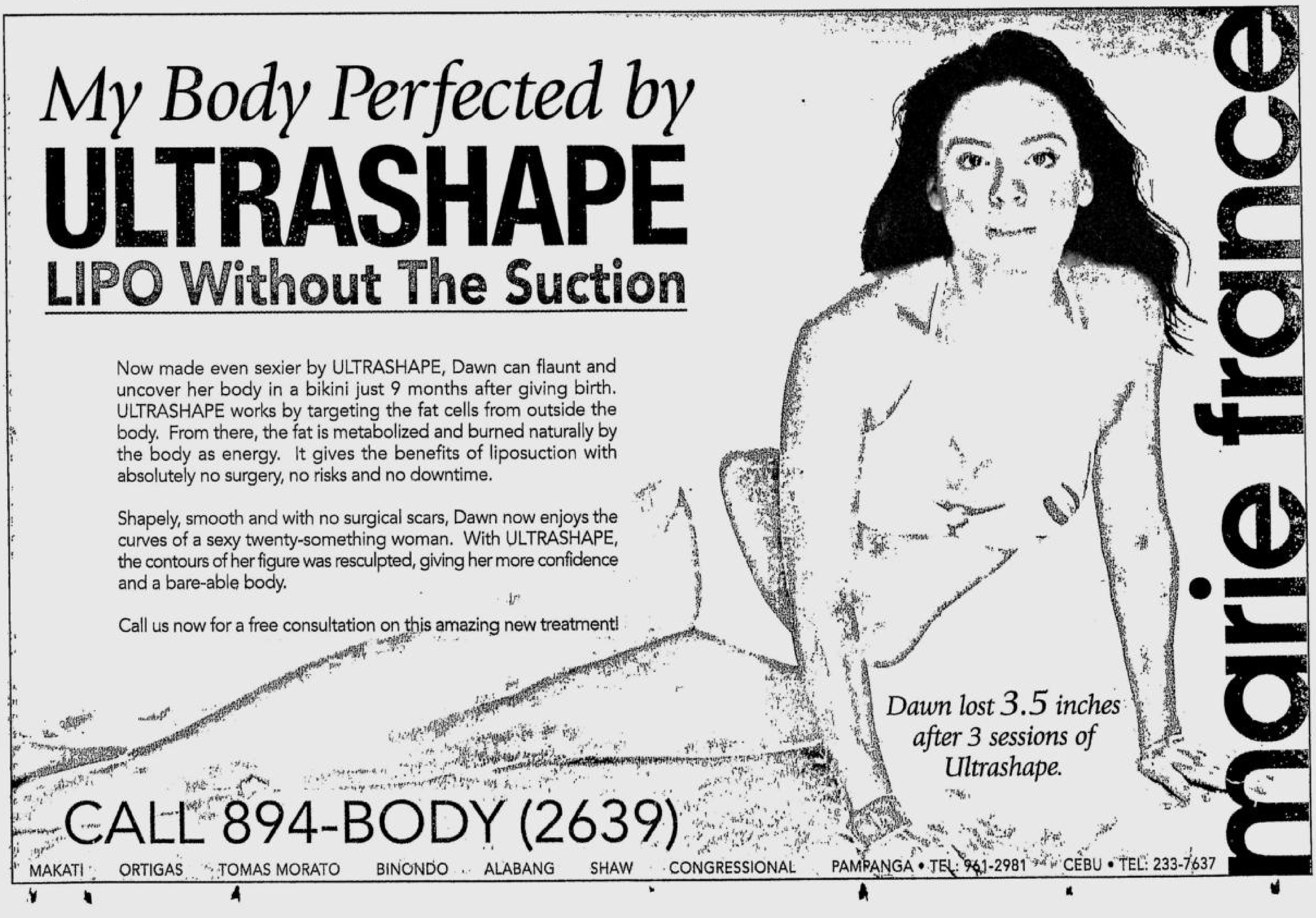
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marie france

War over, it's time to move on, says Palace

By Christine O. Avendaño and Christian V. Esguerra

MALACAÑANG SAYS THE WAR is over and it is time for reconciliation, but a Roman Catholic bishop warns President Macapagal-Arroyo's crisis of legitimacy continues and the specter of protests and revolution looms.

"It's not only the battle but the war that is over. It's time to move on," said Michael Defensor, presidential chief of staff, hours after Ms Arroyo's allies in the House yesterday hammered the final nail in the latest impeachment coffin.

"We would like to reconcile with the reconcilables. The demagogues can continue with their political play," said Defensor.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said, "Let's bury the issue. Let's move forward." He said the country had managed to move forward despite the impeachment attempt. "With less political noise, all the more we should be able to move faster and forward."

Warning against violence

But Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez of Caloocan predicted the anti-Arroyo forces would press their demands for a resolution to the political controversies hounding the President.

"I'm sure there will be other moves—revolution, street protests, forums and even military intervention," said Iñiguez, who signed one of the eight impeachment complaints against Ms Arroyo in July.

Iñiguez, head of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines' Commission on Public Affairs, appealed to the disgruntled sectors not to resort to violence and other extrajudicial means to resolve the political crisis.

He instead invited the public to participate in public forums where the people behind the failed impeachment bid could present their case against Ms Arroyo.

"Once the truth is out, it would then be for the people to decide what to do about it," he said.

Promise of pork barrel

Sen. Panfilo Lacson said most of the congressmen had been expected to dismiss the complaint because of the promise of "pork barrel" funds, presidential allocations for infrastructure projects that are a major source of kickbacks.

"As long as the power of the pork barrel reigns in Congress and a majority of congressmen are threatened by their own weaknesses for one reason or another, we will witness a yearly eulogy for an impeachment complaint filed against GMA," he said.

"The bigger question is, will it mitigate the political crisis caused by cheating, lying and stealing committed by Mrs. Arroyo and her rotten Comelec?"

Sen. Edgardo Angara said the dismissal was "predictable from the beginning" because of the sheer number of administration congressmen. He urged the lawmakers to move on, "start showing some work for the people, and exact revenge at the polls.

Angara said the next battleground was the 2007 elections. "The only battle that you can really engage in, apart from the usual muckraking within Congress, within the Senate, is the elections," he said.

The leftist Bagong Alyansang Makabayan said it would lead beginning today demonstrations and forums to present to the public the issues against Ms Arroyo that her allies in the House had muzzled by killing the impeachment complaint against her.

"There will be no funerals and eulogies today because the evidence and charges against Ms Arroyo live on. A Caravan for Truth and Justice will be initiated to bring the seven boxes of evidence to schools and communities," said Renato Reyes Jr., Bayan secretary general.

Opposition congressmen were prevented from opening the balikbayan boxes at the House committee on justice hearing last week.

"The impeachment case will be brought to the people," he said. First stop of the truth caravan will be the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

He said civilian complainants, minority lawmakers and cause-oriented groups would assemble at the House of Representatives before holding a motorcade along Commonwealth Avenue going to the UP campus.

"At the campus, the impeachment complainants and lawmakers will hold a teach-in on the issues contained in the seven boxes of evidence," Reyes said.

He added that on Aug. 30, cause-oriented groups and human rights advocates will be gathering at Plaza Miranda in Manila to demand a stop to the political killings. *With reports from TJ Burgonio, Juliet Labog-Javellana and Norman Bordadora*

'History will say . . .

From page A1

the decision of the committee on justice last week to kill this year's impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo for insufficiency in substance.

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero echoed the view of the opposition that also botched last year's impeachment attempt.

"You thought you won, but history will say who's right or wrong," said Escudero. "Although we lost, the result of the voting will not twist the truth about cheating, lying, anomalies and stealing in the government in the past years."

In a repeat of last September's vote that crushed a similar attempt to oust Ms Arroyo over charges she stole the 2004 presidential election, the opposition did not get the one-third vote, or 77, required to move the case to trial in the opposition-controlled Senate.

"Thank God," said Speaker Jose de Venecia. "Considering the mood of the Senate, they would be inclined to convict."

He said an impeachment trial would have led the country to financial collapse.

"We should not allow anymore a cycle of boom and bust. By our hands, we commit suicide and destroy our own gains," De Venecia said.

He said that only the shift to a unicameral parliamentary system could prevent the recurrence of impeachment attempts against the leader of the land.

Railroaded

Only Rep. Joseph Santiago, an opposition lawmaker from the lone district of Catanduanes, abstained from voting on Committee Report No. 1886 because of the "railroading" of the final report in the justice committee.

It was a full house when the roll call voting started at about 2 a.m. yesterday. By daybreak, with more than 120 congressmen voting to ditch impeachment, administration supporters began calling on the opposition to throw in the towel.

"The fight is over, and their best was not good enough," said Sorsogon Rep. Jose Solis.

The last to speak, Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri of Bukidnon, declared that the "long night is over."

"What cannot be denied is that we carried the torch of democracy. I see this as a celebration of the vibrancy of the rule of law. Nobody lost and democracy has won. For everyone who fought here, it was a good fight," said Zubiri.

Destabilization

PROIMPEACHMENT supporters in the gallery applaud opposition lawmakers at the Batasang Pambansa Thursday. JOAN BONDOC

The impeachment complaint accused Ms Arroyo of culpable violation of the Constitution, graft and corruption and grave abuse of authority. Specific charges, which the President has denied, included accusations she rigged the 2004 presidential election, ordered political killings and receiving illegal gambling payoffs.

Rep. Harlin Abayon of Northern Samar accused the minority of "bastardizing the impeachment process," saying the cases lodged against the President were meant to "destabilize the government."

Leah Navarro, a leader of the Black and White Movement whose impeachment complaint was the only one considered among the eight cases brought to the House this year, said the "fight for truth and justice" would never end.

She vowed to revive the complaint next year. "I did not get justice today ... but God willing there will be a 14th Congress. I plan to be here again to do the same thing all over again," she said.

Echoing earlier opposition allegations, Rep. Rolex Suplico claimed the Arroyo administration had bought support with bribes and pork barrel projects.

"Did the President violate her oath of office? The answer, my friends, is that we and the Filipino people will never know," he said.

Rep. Ronaldo Zamora, who recently had a quadruple heart bypass, said that for the sake of the nation "we both love," the President should answer the lingering questions on her legitimacy.

"Madame President, go directly to our people with your answers. Bypass us in the House and the Senate if need be and talk to to our people heart to heart. Only you can do this. Only you have the right answers," he said.

Zamora said he could think of three questions:

"Was the President talking to (former Election) Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano? Did she precisely instruct officials in the Armed Forces, Philippine National Police and Comelec to perform during the 2004 elections? What did she instruct Undersecretary (of Agriculture Jocelyn) Bolante to do with the fertilizer funds?"

Seven, eleven

OF THE 51 LAWMAKERS who voted to impeach last year, seven—Representatives Teodoro Locsin Jr. (Makati), Arthur Pingoy (South Cotabato), Proceso Alcala (Quezon), Antonino Roman (Bataan), Jacinto Paras (Negros Oriental), Rodante Marcoleta (Alagad) and Hans Christian Señeres (Buhay)—changed their stance and voted to affirm the committee report.

Eleven—Cynthia Villar (Las Piñas), the wife of Senate President Manuel Villar; Rozzano Biazon (Muntinlupa), the son of Sen. Rodolfo Biazon; Rodolfo Bacani (Manila), the brother of Catholic Bishop Teodoro Bacani; Robert Ace Barbers (Surigao); Robert Jaworski (Pasig); Clavel Martinez (Cebu); Joseph Abaya (Cavite); Alfonso Umali (Oriental Mindoro); Erico Fabian (Zamboanga City); Arnulfo Fuentebella (Camarines Sur); and the detained Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran—were absent during yesterday's hearing.

Two others—Edmundo Reyes Jr. (Marinduque) and Hermilando Mandanas (Batangas)—were present but did not vote. *Philip C. Tubeza*

32 who voted no

REPRESENTATIVES HENEDINA Abad, Nereus Acosta, Benjamin Agarao, Mario Aguja, Juan Edgardo Angara, Darlene Antonino-Custodio, Agapito Aquino, Benigno Aquino III, Teodoro Casiño, Alan Peter Cayetano, Justin Chipeco, Francis Escudero, Roilo Golez, Teofisto Guingona III, Mujiv Hataman, Risa Baraquel, Ruy Elias Lopez, Renato Magtubo, Manuel Mamba, Imee Marcos, Rafael Mariano, Liza Maza, Florencio Noel, Satur Ocampo, Rodolfo Plaza, Gilbert Remulla, Loretta Ann Rosales, Rolex Suplico, Lorenzo Tañada III, Joel Villanueva, Joel Virador and Ronaldo Zamora.

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Barbs, 'balut,' antics . . .

From page A1

Tension was running high as the debates neared midnight.

Rep. Alan Peter Cayetano fished out three *balut* eggs from his jacket, strode to his tormentor, Rep. Luis Villafuerte, gave the steamed duck embryos to him as a peace offering and said they represented the words "I love you."

"You've been insulting and shouting at me," he said. *"Hindi ka naman imbestigador pero hindi mo kami tinatantanan,"* Cayetano said, a reference to popular broadcaster Mike Enriquez and his slogan as an unrelenting investigator.

"I accept these three balut eggs. I hope they're not rotten," said the Camarines Sur congressman, to gales of laughter from the crowd.

Cayetano, who represents the balut-making towns of Taguig and Pateros, said they were not rotten and that they would help keep Villafuerte on his feet. Balut is believed to be an aphrodisiac with energizing powers.

The debates began after the justice committee report was presented to the entire House at 6:14 p.m. on Wednesday. When the final vote dismissing the complaint was announced at around 9:50 a.m. yesterday, the plenary session had run for nearly 17 hours.

The arguments began to heat up after Cayetano insisted that the impeachment complaint contained facts that would make it sufficient in substance.

He showed pictures of property purportedly owned by the President that were not included in her Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

He also detailed alleged discrepancies in the poll results from the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao that purportedly showed that tallied votes during the 2004 presidential election were fabricated to favor Ms Arroyo.

Generalizations

Representatives Simeon Datumanong, committee chair, Edcel Lagman and Villafuerte vigorously defended the committee report, insisting that the impeachment complaint only contained "generalizations, inferences, innuendos and self-serving propaganda."

"You should have included a statement of ultimate facts or material and substantiated facts that basically constitute the wrongdoing alleged in the complaint," Lagman said.

He said the opposition also committed a major blunder when it supposedly failed to attach to the complaint's annexes samples of the evidence it was insisting on presenting before the committee.

The opposition last week showed to reporters seven balikbayan boxes purportedly containing evidence to support its impeachment complaint. Administration allies stopped the minority from opening the boxes.

Cayetano asked if the committee meant attaching to the impeachment complaint ex-Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-joc" Bolante, accused in the P728-million fertilizer scam, and former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano of the famed "Hello Garci" election fraud controversy.

"Go ahead, if you can," an irritated Lagman replied.

"You show this supposed evidence on TV but there's nothing about it in the complaint. Maybe the senator has already gotten enough mileage from this," Lagman said, alluding to Cayetano's prolonged interpellation and his reported desire to run for a Senate seat.

Heckling

The exchange broke down in heckling between the two.

Lagman later complained that that he was virtually "teaching" the minority about the rules and legal procedures on impeachment.

But Cayetano told him: "You don't need to teach us because what you're teaching is wrong."

Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez came next, questioning Lagman, committee vice chair, on the supposed hasty approval of the panel report on Tuesday even without a review of each of its 36 pages.

"In my recollection, the report was almost approved in less than five minutes. If it were not for our objections, it would have been adopted in principle," Golez said.

"Both of us are what I would say veteran lawmakers but no committee adopts reports on principle," he added.

But Lagman insisted that adopting measures "in principle" was a common parliamentary practice.

Nuances of impeachment rules

"If he's a veteran, why doesn't he know this?" Lagman said. He added that Golez should not act like a lawyer since he was not one. He explained that the impeachment rules contained nuances that nonlawyers "could not pretend to know after just some days of research."

The political soap opera was not unusual, especially when congressmen are on camera.

Golez later thanked Lagman for persevering in his grilling and, during a break, Cayetano also approached Lagman and offered him and other administration lawmakers candy, which the latter gladly accepted.

But not after one last jab at the opposition stalwart. Lagman ribbed Cayetano for giving Villafuerte balut and him only candy. Cayetano laughed.

PNCC to settle old debts with ₱6.2-billion compromise

By Armand N. Nocum

THE STATE-OWNED PHILIPPINE NATIONAL Construction Corp. is willing to part with an estimated P6 billion of prime properties and its share of the profitable toll operations of the Manila North Tollways Corp. to settle debts with a foreign company that lent it less than a billion pesos in the 1980s.

In a "joint motion for judgment based on compromise" that the firm filed before the Supreme Court last Aug. 18, the PNCC cited its desire to "avoid the trouble and inconvenience of further litigation" as the reason why it was dropping its legal battle with the British-based Radstock Securities.

PNCC also said it wanted the compromise to be a "gesture of goodwill and cooperation" to Radstock, to which the Japan-based Marubeni Corp. had assigned the loans that it gave a PNCC subsidiary. Marubeni had given the subsidiary an "advance payment agreement" of $5 million on Aug. 9, 1978 and a loan of ¥5.5 billion on May 19, 1980.

On Jan. 15, 2001, Radstock filed a complaint with a writ of preliminary attachment with a Mandaluyong court to collect the PNCC's guarantees on "unpaid loans" to Marubeni of the PNCC subsidiary, which was then known as the Construction and Development Corp. of the Philippines (CDCP).

Marcos cronies

CDCP was formed by businessman Rodolfo Cuenca, a crony of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos. The dictator owned shares in the company through another of his cronies, Jose Yao Campos.

Marcos transformed all CDCP debt into public sector debt with a $400 million bailout in 1983.

In the Aug. 18 joint motion filed by PNCC and Radstock, the two firms asked the court to approve the compromise agreement where the latter would receive from PNCC a "compromise amount" of P6.196 billion as payment.

Both parties agreed that "on the basis of the RTC decision dated Dec. 10, 2002, the current value of the judgment debt against PNCC stood at P17,196,000 as of July 31, 2006."

P6-B compromise

In their motion, the PNCC through its chair Arthur N. Aguilar and Radstock through its director Carlos G. Dominguez sought the tribunal's approval of a compromise agreement which they reached last Aug. 17, 2006 in which Radstock agreed to settle the case at the reduced compromise amount of P6.196 billion.

Government Corporate Counsel Agnes Vst. Devanadera also signed the agreement.

Under the agreement, PNCC agreed to assign to Radstock all its rights and interest over 10 hectares of prime property on Roxas Blvd., with a transfer value of only P3.82 billion, as well as other prime properties in Parañaque, Tagaytay, the Town and Country Estate in Antipolo and a farm in Bulacan.

Aside from this, the state-owned firm will also give up in favor of Radstock 50 percent of PNCC's 6 percent share in the gross toll revenue of the Manila North Tollways Corp., with a net value of P1.2 billion.

The agreement also binds the PNCC to cede 20 percent of its outstanding capital stock to Radstock. The assigned value of these shares is pegged at P713 million based on the approximate last trading price of PNCC shares in the Philippine Stock Exchange.

PDEA hit for theft of seized drugs

WHILE THE PHILIPPINE DRUG ENforcement Agency is looking for someone within the agency with unusually long arms, the PDEA has only itself to blame for losing P21 million worth of seized illegal drugs, according to the principal author of the law that created the anti-drug unit.

Former Senate Minority Floor Leader Vicente C. Sotto III said the theft of the seven kilos of shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) should never have happened had the PDEA followed the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 (Republic Act 9165).

Under the law, the former senator said in a press statement, the illegal drugs should have been destroyed within four days after the filing of criminal charges in court. The stolen drugs had been in PDEA custody for at least three years.

"Had the PDEA followed the law, this problem would not have occurred," Sotto said. He said section 21 of the Act provides that:

"After the filing of the criminal case, the Court shall, within seventy-two (72) hours, conduct an ocular inspection of the confiscated, seized and or surrendered dangerous drugs… and through the PDEA, shall within twenty-four (24) hours thereafter proceed with the destruction or burning of the same."

From the above provision, Sotto noted that the seized rugs should be destroyed or burned within four days from the filing of the case in court.

Sotto clarified, however, that law enforcers and fiscals are given 36 hours to file the case from the time of arrest.

"There must be a prior determination of the nature of the seized drugs by the PDEA Forensic Laboratory for use during court proceedings within 24 hours from confiscation," he said. He recalled that this provision was inserted into the law in order to prevent the reintroduction of prohibited drugs into the drug market.

But the PDEA is concerned less with the provisions of the law than with catching the long-armed agent who may have stolen the seized illegal drugs from the anti-narcotics agency's evidence room on Sunday night.

A total of 18 PDEA employees have volunteered to have their fingerprints taken by the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory for cross matching with prints lifted from the crime scene.

That night, the weather was bad and power went out in one whole block, including the PDEA complex, in Quezon City. Between 9:30 p.m. and midnight, the thieves managed to break through two doors, but they failed to pry open a third door leading to the evidence room. Its second lock refused to give way, according to PDEA Director General Dionisio Santiago.

Instead, the robbers destroyed the door's screen and simply reached for the illegal drugs, making off with seven kilos, part of 69 kilos seized about three years ago from the Manila Container Port.

Hence, the one who did it must have long arms, Santiago said.

"The reach of the arm would be part of our investigation. We would measure the arms of people there," Santiago said, drawing chuckles from reporters.

But the PDEA chief said he was not kidding. The room has more than 300 kilos of shabu. The PDEA chief said his office was still, in a way, fortunate. Had the thieves successfully destroyed the third door, they would have ended up with some P900 billion worth of drugs.

Initial indications pointed to an inside job, and Santiago said everyone at PDEA, including himself and beginning with the evidence custodian, is a suspect as of the moment.

Police also offered to help in the investigation, should PDEA need it, according to Philippine National Police spokesperson Sr. Supt. Samuel Pagdilao. *With Luige del Puerto*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, August 25, 2006
20th Week in Ordinary Time
Louis / Joseph Calasanz

1st Reading:	**Ezk 37:1-14**
Gospel:	**Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard how Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. One of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to test him with this question, "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the Law?"

Jesus answered, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and the most important of the commandments. But after this there is another one very similar to it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole Law and the Prophets are founded on these two commandments."

Commentary

Ezekiel has his famous vision of bones that hear the word of the Lord and they start coming together, coming back to life in the desert! Bones, then sinews, then flesh, and finally, spirit. This is Israel who has been dead but will be brought back to life and they will have the spirit of God placed in them. God vows this! And Jesus tells us clearly what this Spirit is and what life is: to love God and everyone with all that we are and have been given, with all our life's force. Are we alive in God? How alive? Or is there a great deal in us that is still dead and in need of the Spirit?

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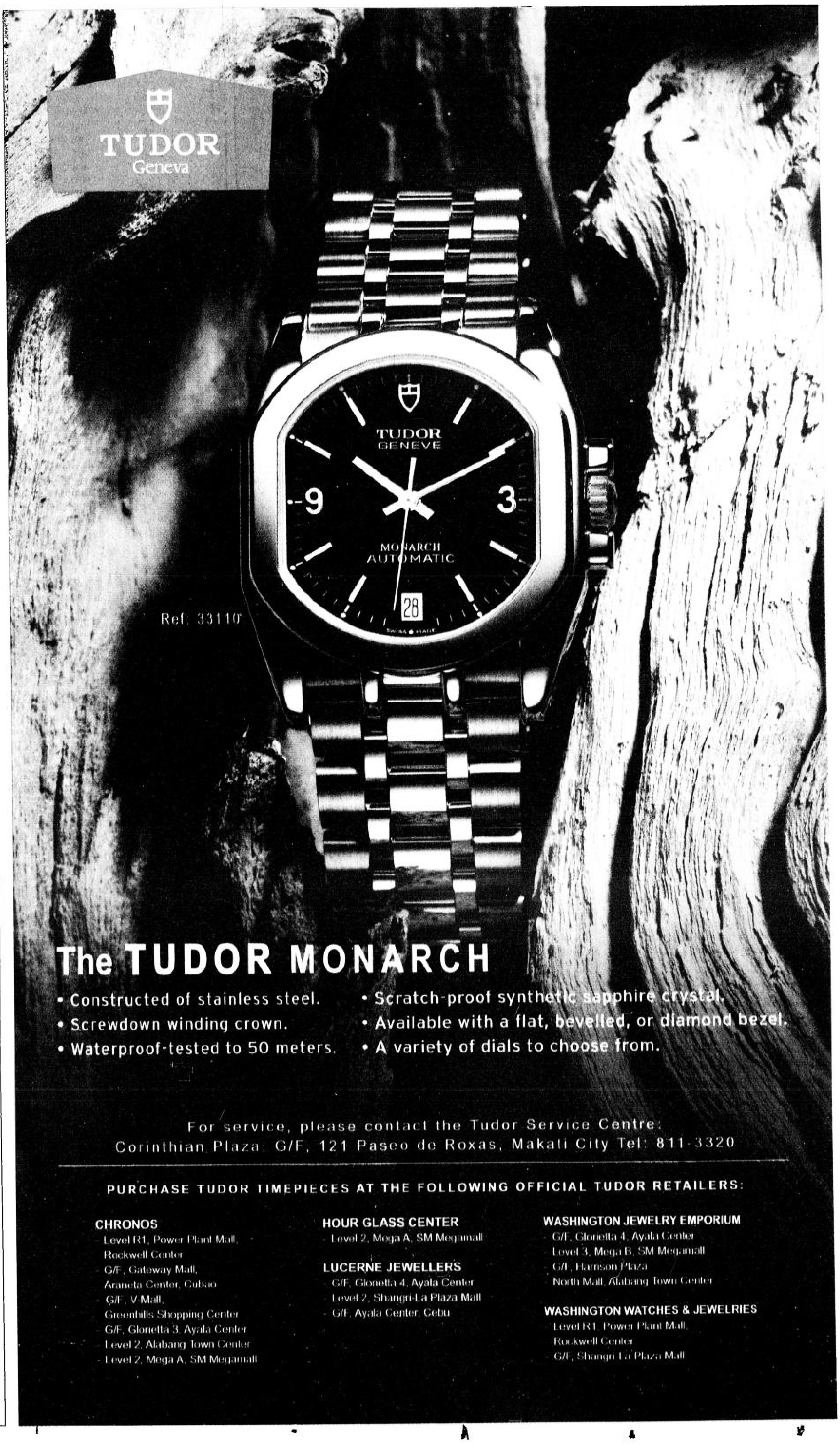

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- Level 2, Alabang Town Center
- Level 2, Mega A, SM Megamall

HOUR GLASS CENTER
- Level 2, Mega A, SM Megamall

LUCERNE JEWELLERS
- G/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center
- Level 2, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
- G/F, Ayala Center, Cebu

WASHINGTON JEWELRY EMPORIUM
- G/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center
- Level 3, Mega B, SM Megamall
- G/F, Harrison Plaza
- North Mall, Alabang Town Center

WASHINGTON WATCHES & JEWELRIES
- Level R1, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center
- G/F, Shangri-La Plaza Mall

Bunker fuel still oozing out of tanker

By Blanche S. Rivera and Dona Pazzibugan *in Manila*
Nestor P. Burgos Jr. *Inquirer Visayas*

BUNKER FUEL OIL IS STILL OOZING out of the sunken MT Solar I, which sank off the coast of Guimaras on Aug. 11 with 2 million liters of oil, according to Petron Corp.

Petron, which commissioned the tanker to transport fuel from Bataan to Zamboanga del Sur, earlier disputed reports of the Philippines Coast Guard that the leak had not stopped.

The oil refiner said yesterday it had spotted fresh leaks near the site where the vessel sank.

The company's spotter plane, which flies twice daily from Iloilo to Guimaras to survey the site affected by the oil slick, found traces of fresh leaks at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

"We're completely transparent with what we see is happening on the ground. There's no reason for us to hide things," Petron chief executive officer Nick Alcantara said at a press conference.

Petron has deployed boats to confirm the leak and its possible source.

He said Petron deeply regretted the unfortunate incident and would "take responsibility in addressing the containment and recovery of the oil spill both on land and sea, and more importantly, map out the long term rehabilitation of the island of Guimaras."

Petron, however, said all information on the location of the MT Solar I and the source of the oil leak—whether from the PCG or Petron—were just "guesses" until a Japanese vessel arrives, operates its sensors and sends down its remote-operated vehicle to find the vessel.

The oil slick has so far affected Sibunag, San Lorenzo and Nueva Valencia towns on Guimaras Island, and Ajuy and Concepcion towns in Iloilo province, damaging marine resources.

The spill has spread to more than 300 km of coastline on Guimaras Island, according to the civil defense office.

In Iloilo, the oil slick from the sunken tanker is wreaking havoc on fish pens, marine sanctuaries, and the lives of some 13,000 people directly dependent on the sea for their livelihood.

President Macapagal-Arroyo is heading to Guimaras Island on Saturday to see for herself the worst oil spill in the country. She is expected to announce a livelihood support fund to help them get by.

Silliman University will send a composite team of scientists to Guimaras also on Saturday to evaluate the damage to the ecosystem and recommend long-term measures to address the problem.

Residents of coastal villages struck by the oil spill have complained of gastric pain, flu, gastritis, throat irritation, dizziness, headaches, asthma, skin allergies and other infections, according to the Guimaras provincial health office.

Nueva Valencia town, the hardest hit among the five municipalities, had the most number of cases, followed by Sibunag town.

The most common symptoms or cases treated were coughing. Dr. Felicito Lozarita, provincial health officer, said data from other villages and municipalities were still coming in.

Classes in elementary schools in Nueva Valencia have been suspended because of the pungent fumes from the oil.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque yesterday said it was unlikely that the death of a fisherman in Guimaras last week was caused by toxic fumes from the oil spill.

He said there would have been more deaths if exposure to toxic fumes was the cause of death because residents in coastal areas affected by the spill had the same level and period of exposure. "It was an isolated case."

But Duque said an autopsy would be conducted on Remelio Dalida to determine the cause of his death. Dalida, 26, a resident of Barangay Cabalagnan in Nueva Valencia town, died of cardiac arrest on Aug. 16. *With reports from Abigail L. Ho, Tarra V. Quismundo, Christine O. Avendaño and Juliet Labor-Javellana in Manila; and Alex Pal, Jhunnex Napallacan and Hazel P. Villa, Inquirer Visayas*

Oil sludge drifts toward Olongapo

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—A THICK 300-M-long brownish-black oil sludge was spotted along the shore of Barangay Barreto in Olongapo City at 6:30 p.m. yesterday, according to Sen. Richard Gordon who went to the site.

Gordon, reached by phone, said he received reports the sludge had spread to the beaches of Subic. He said he sent out teams on boats to check on the reports and to help in the cleanup using a skimmer and oil boom from the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority.

Armand Arreza, SBMA administrator, said the oil sludge was first spotted on Thursday morning around Grande Island, some 13 km from Subic.

He said the sludge could have been discharged by a ship that left the port of Subic in the morning.

According to Arreza, port authorities had confirmed that Coastal Petroleum and Hanjin, which have oil depots at the Subic Freeport, did not have any accidental spills.

Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon

2M to plant trees along national roads

From page A1

department said, but it could not be ascertained how many would actually show up.

The project covers the 2,176-km Pan-Philippine Highway from Laoag to Davao City; the 439-km Manila North Road, which stretches from Laoag through the La Union-Bulacan route; and the 824-km West Nautical Highway linking Batangas City to Mindoro, Aklan, Negros Oriental and Zamboanga-Sibugay.

Km Zero

The DENR has allocated 516,000 seedlings of indigenous trees, such as narra, mahogany, acacia and banaba, and ornamental plants for today's activity.

President Macapagal-Arroyo will plant a *saraca* seedling, an indigenous tree species touted as "the King of Flowering Plants" at the GPH's "Kilometer Zero" near the Rizal Monument at the Rizal Park in Manila.

Reyes explained that indigenous species had longer lifespans averaging 100 years and were more resilient to pest and local physical conditions.

"Indigenous tree species give a more beautiful scenic effect to the landscape. Just imagine the psychic and physical relief commuters and motorists can get from seeing long stretches of fire trees or narra trees in their full bloom," Reyes said.

Studies show that 70 percent of air pollutants in the Philippines come from vehicular emissions, while 30 percent come from fuel-burning fixed facilities, such as factories and power plants, and area sources, such as construction sites.

A single tree can sequester 0.56 metric tons of carbon dioxide in its lifetime, and around 10 trees are needed to capture the emissions of one car.

50-M trees needed

With around five million registered motor vehicles in the country—1.55 million of which are in Metro Manila—the country will need about 50 million trees to contain the pollutants emitted by motor vehicles.

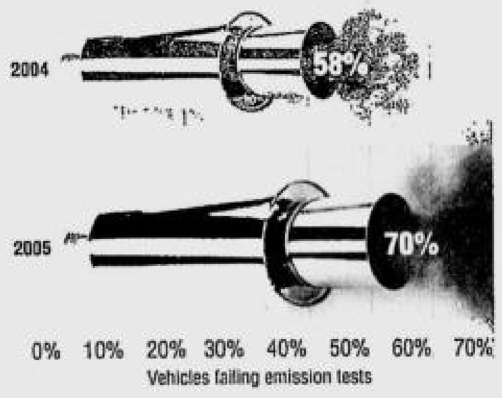
The President has issued a memorandum to all Cabinet secretaries and heads of government-owned and -controlled corporations to send delegations to the GPH launching and adopt stretches of roads covered by the program.

The DENR has forged 1,060 memorandums of agreement with 3,852 public and private organizations to adopt planting sites. The "GPH adopters" have pledged to plant trees and ensure their survival and proper growth.

The arrangement would be similar to the "adopt-a-tree" concept, in which communities and organizations nurture the trees at specific sites for at least three years, the minimum period needed by a growing tree to reach maturity.

SMOKE BELCHERS

(70% of Metro Manila vehicles fail emission tests)



Filipino siblings rule US 'Talent Olympics'

From page A1

erly, Paolo and Jem Marquez—impressed the judges with their singing style and bagged the silver medal in the overall senior vocal division.

The Cercados and The Siblings—the singing groups' professional names—bested over 4,000 artists from 43 countries at the competition held from Aug. 5 to 12.

"The experience motivated us to improve and gave a boost to our self-confidence. We can't help but think *'Pang*-international *din pala kami*,'" Beverly, 31, said at a press conference at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Fam Jam

The Siblings and The Cercados were discovered after winning the grand prize and third place, respectively, at "Fam Jam," a talent show for families aired on QTV 11. The show was developed by TV director Bert de Leon and launched by TV executive Kitchie Benedicto.

To augment their parents' income as Tupperware dealers, The Cercados would perform in town fiestas, weddings and special occasions in Isabela and Tuguegarao, their hometowns.

Their mother, Erlinda, 47, said that their earnings and winnings helped put their eldest sister, Fatima, through nursing school.

"Fatima also sings, but she had to skip Fam Jam because she's already in fourth year," Erlinda said.

Beverly Marquez decided to quit her job at a call center to concentrate on the talent show.

Even with their feat at the Talent Olympics, her brothers, Paolo, 27, and Jem, 20, said they still would have to finish their computer science courses.

Record deals and performances both here and abroad are already in the offing for these world-class talents.

THE CERCADO sisters and the Marquez siblings show off their awards upon arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Thursday. JESS YUSON

"We're shooting for the moon but until all those materialize, we'll patiently wait and continue their training," De Leon said.

Record producers

De Leon, along with Benedicto, trained The Cercados and The Siblings during the three-month preparation for WCOPA.

De Leon described the Talent Olympics as a "go-see opportunity" for aspiring artists all over the world, with more than a hundred international show biz personalities, casting directors, and record producers sitting as judges.

In particular, Shele Sondheim, son of renowned composer, Steven Sondheim, "expressed his belief in the Filipino performers' high level of musicality," De Leon said.

This was only the second year that the Philippines sent a delegation to the decade-old WCOPA, but already, Filipinos have made a mark in the Talent Olympics.

Popular balladeer, Jed Madela, was its grand champion last year.

"Despite having to battle jet lag and tension during the long elimination process, at crunch time, the Filipinos delivered," De Leon said.

Another level

"When they are called to perform, they take hold of the stage, bring everything to another level, and perform like professionals," he said.

The 21-member delegation of the Philippines this year all made it to the finals.

All song entries were limited to 60 seconds each so that choosing and arranging songs that would showcase one's vocal prowess for such a short time was in itself a challenge, De Leon said.

"In that aspect, it also showed the creativity of the Filipinos. They all performed one-minute songs that were arranged very well," he said.

Sixteen gold medals

The Cercados came home with 16 gold medals, four plaques, and a sparkling trophy after sweeping the top prizes in all the four categories they participated in—Broadway, Gospel, Original Works and Pop/R&B.

They sang "His Eyes on the Sparrow" (Gospel), "Phantom of the Opera" (Broadway), Ryan Cayabyab's "Paraiso" (Original Works), and "Billy Jean" (Pop/R&B).

"The judges told us they liked Michael Jackson again after hearing us sing Billy Jean," Almira said.

She and her sisters performed the Jackson hit, complete with dancing the moonwalk.

The judges were so impressed that they awarded The Cercados the Worldstar Champions in the Pop Category in the junior division.

The Siblings had a total of nine silver medals from the same categories.

Anak

They sang another Jackson classic, "Man in the Mirror" for Pop/R&B; Freddie Aguilar's "Anak" for Original Works; Ella Mae Sayson's "Till My Heartaches End" for Gospel; and "Corner of the Sky" for Broadway.

"The judges were impressed with The Siblings soul style of singing which is attributed mainly to the African-Americans. They can't believe hearing soul from Asians," De Leon said.

The Talent Olympics actually gave The Cercados and The Siblings their first trip abroad.

And when they arrived in Manila yesterday, they all wore identical white sweaters bearing the Philippine flag, ecstatic to have brought pride and honor to their country.

Amnesty Int'l says Israel committed war crimes

From page A1

criminal responsibility," the London-based human rights group, which has won the Nobel Peace Prize several times, said in a report on the Israeli campaign.

The report said Israel's war crimes included "directly attacking civilian objects and carrying out indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks."

"During more than four weeks of ground and aerial bombardment (of Lebanon) by the Israeli Armed Forces, the country's infrastructure suffered destruction on a catastrophic scale," the report said, contending that this was "an integral part of the military strategy."

Mark Regev, the spokesperson for Israel's foreign ministry, rejected the claim that Israel had "acted outside international norms or international legality concerning the rules of war."

Unlike Hezbollah, Regev said, Israel did not target the civilian population, nor did it indiscriminately target Lebanese civilian infrastructure.

He added: "Our job was made very difficult by the fact that Hezbollah adopted a deliberate policy of positioning itself inside civilian areas and breaking the first fundamental distinction under the rules of war, by deliberately endangering civilians.

"Under the rules of war, you are legally entitled to target infrastructure that your enemy is exploiting for its military campaign."

7,000 attacks

Citing a variety of sources, the Amnesty International report said Israel's Air Force had carried out more than 7,000 attacks, while its Navy had fired 2,500 shells.

The human toll, according to Lebanese government statistics, was estimated at 1,183 deaths, mostly civilians, about a third of them children; 4,054 wounded; and 970,000 people displaced, out of a population of a little under 4 million.

LEBANESE Red Cross and civil defense rescuers rush the body of a young girl who was taken out of the rubble of a building in Beirut, following an Israeli bombing on Aug. 13, 2006. AP

The Amnesty International report said the widespread destruction of apartments, houses, electricity and water services, roads, bridges, factories and ports, in addition to several statements by Israeli officials, suggested a policy of punishing the Lebanese government and the civilian population in an effort to get them to turn against Hezbollah.

The report also noted a statement from the Israeli military chief of staff, Lt. Gen Dan Halutz, calling Hezbollah a "cancer" that Lebanon must get rid of "because if they don't, their country will pay a very high price."

Israeli probe

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert will decide within days whether to set up a powerful state commission to investigate the Israeli leadership's conduct during the Lebanon war, his spokesperson said on Thursday.

Olmert "will let it be known soon what parameters the inquiry into the Lebanon failures should have," Miri Eisin said.

Amid increasing discontent over the conduct of the Lebanon offensive, calls have increased for Olmert to set up a state commission, the most powerful type of public inquiry that would have its powers set by law and members chosen by the Supreme Court.

Olmert is leaning toward setting up a government inquiry, over which he would have more control.

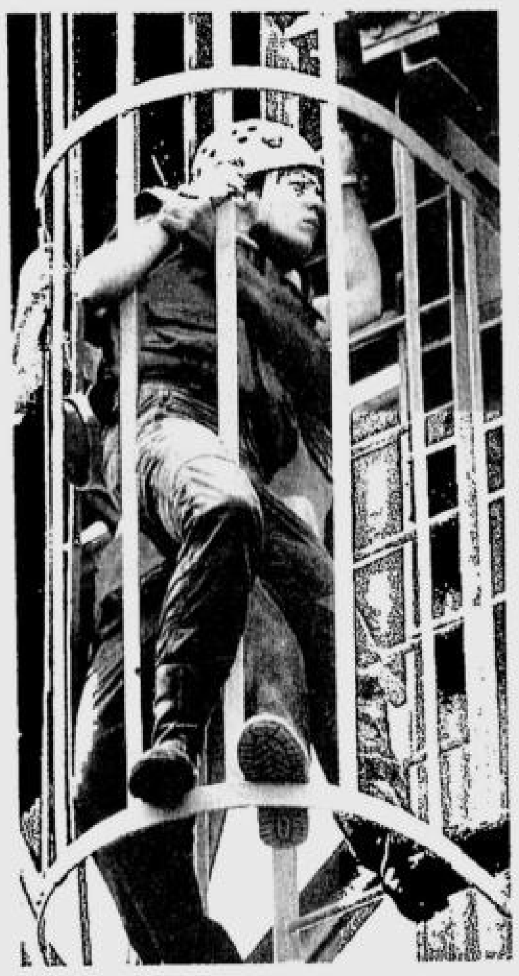
Israel's state comptroller has already launched an inquiry into the war. The defense ministry is also conducting an internal investigation.

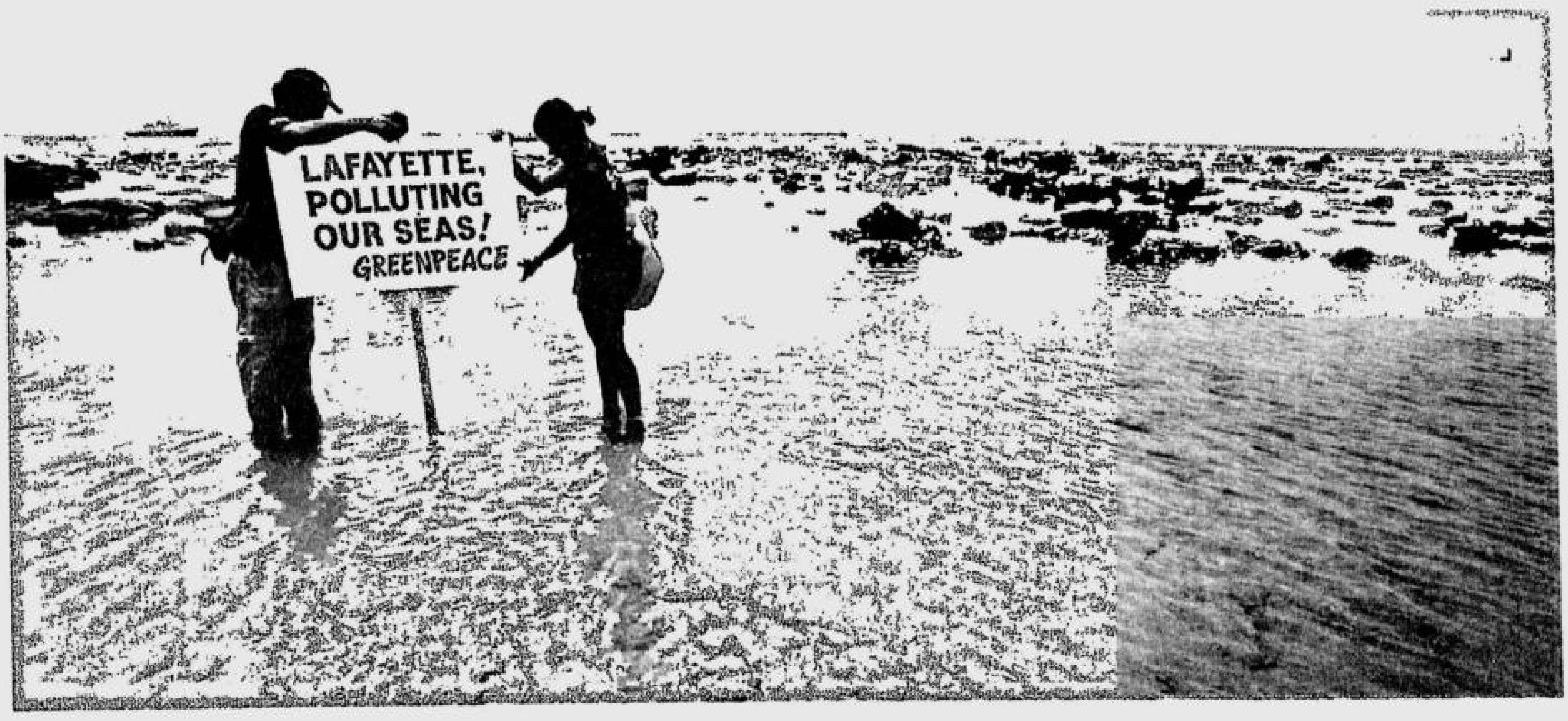
Situation tense

Despite the ceasefire, southern Lebanon remained tense on Wednesday.

Three Lebanese soldiers were killed when they tried to defuse a rocket that had not exploded. An Israeli soldier was killed, and two others were wounded when, according to the Israeli military, they walked over a minefield that Israel had previously buried.

The Israeli military also said it had fired a number of artillery rounds from the disputed territory of Shabaa Farms to the Lebanese village of Shabaa. There were no reports of casualties. *Reports from the New York Times News Service and AFP*




LAFAYETTE, POLLUTING OUR SEAS! GREENPEACE

GREENPEACE activists plant a placard on the beach while another tries to climb the premises of Lafayette in Rapu-Rapu. REM ZAMORA

Deportation of 3 Greenpeace activists sought by Lafayette

LAFAYETTE PHILIPPINES YESTERDAY SAID it was preparing legal action against the environmentalist group Greenpeace for trespassing and is seeking the deportation of three Caucasians who climbed up the company's conveyor belt yesterday to unfurl their anti-mining banners for picture taking.

"Greenpeace has gone out of bounds in its irresponsible and counter-productive photo-ops that unfortunately some media outlets fall for. Recently, they misrepresented themselves at the DENR head office so they could go up the roof deck so photographers they had in tow could take pictures," said Bayani Agabin, Lafayette legal counsel and spokesperson.

Sorsogon Gov. Raul Lee condemned the DENR incident, saying the anti-mining militants have become destructive and must be dealt with accordingly by authorities.

A few weeks ago, unidentified persons poured a huge amount of pesticide into a creek that is the source of clean water for the residents, and started sending out text messages that Lafayette was to blame, Lafayette claimed.

Agabin said if only Greenpeace could be as responsible as the World Wildlife Fund, which pulls no stunts but actually helps solve problems, then Greenpeace would be welcome. "In fact, they should help clean up Guimaras instead of spend time playing cat and mouse," he said.

Last Wednesday and yesterday, Agabin said the company invited the Greenpeace people into the project "to show we are transparent, have nothing to hide, and are models of responsible mining."

But yesterday morning, at a given signal, their team put up banners inside and their photographers immediately took pictures. "We were gracious hosts and we never thought we would be treated with such disrespect," he said.

Then, he said, Greenpeace people took water samples from a creek.

"At around that same time, a Greenpeace press release was issued in Manila saying the water samples contained cadmium, copper and zinc. How could that be? We are idle now while waiting for permission to proceed to the third and last stage of our test run," he said.

Agabin said had Greenpeace asked, they would have been informed that the cadmium is coming from the tunnel that was dug by two previous companies before Lafayette came.

"We are actually providing a permanent solution to a known and pre-existing problem by diverting the outflow from this tunnel towards Lafayette's ponds where the water will be treated and cleansed." "We are part of the solution. I wish Greenpeace would offer solutions, too. But they opt to be troublemakers instead," he added.

It was after lunch yesterday when the Greenpeace team, including two male and one female Caucasians, rushed Lafayette's wharf. The three foreigners climbed up the conveyor belt, hung down their banners as cameras clicked, then climbed down and left in their speed boats.

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Housing recipients warned vs fixers

By Cynthia D. Balana

VICE PRESIDENT Noli de Castro yesterday warned unscrupulous individuals against collecting illegal fees in various relocation sites.

De Castro, chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), issued the warning yesterday during an open forum with relocated families at Northville 3, Barangay Bayugo in Meycauayan, Bulacan, after hearing their complaints on the collection of illegal fees.

The relocated families reported to De Castro that a P500 'processing fee' was being collected from each of them to facilitate faster release of the P50,000 allotment for the construction of the houses.

The complainants identified those involved in illegal collection but De Castro withheld the name until an investigation on the matter is conducted.

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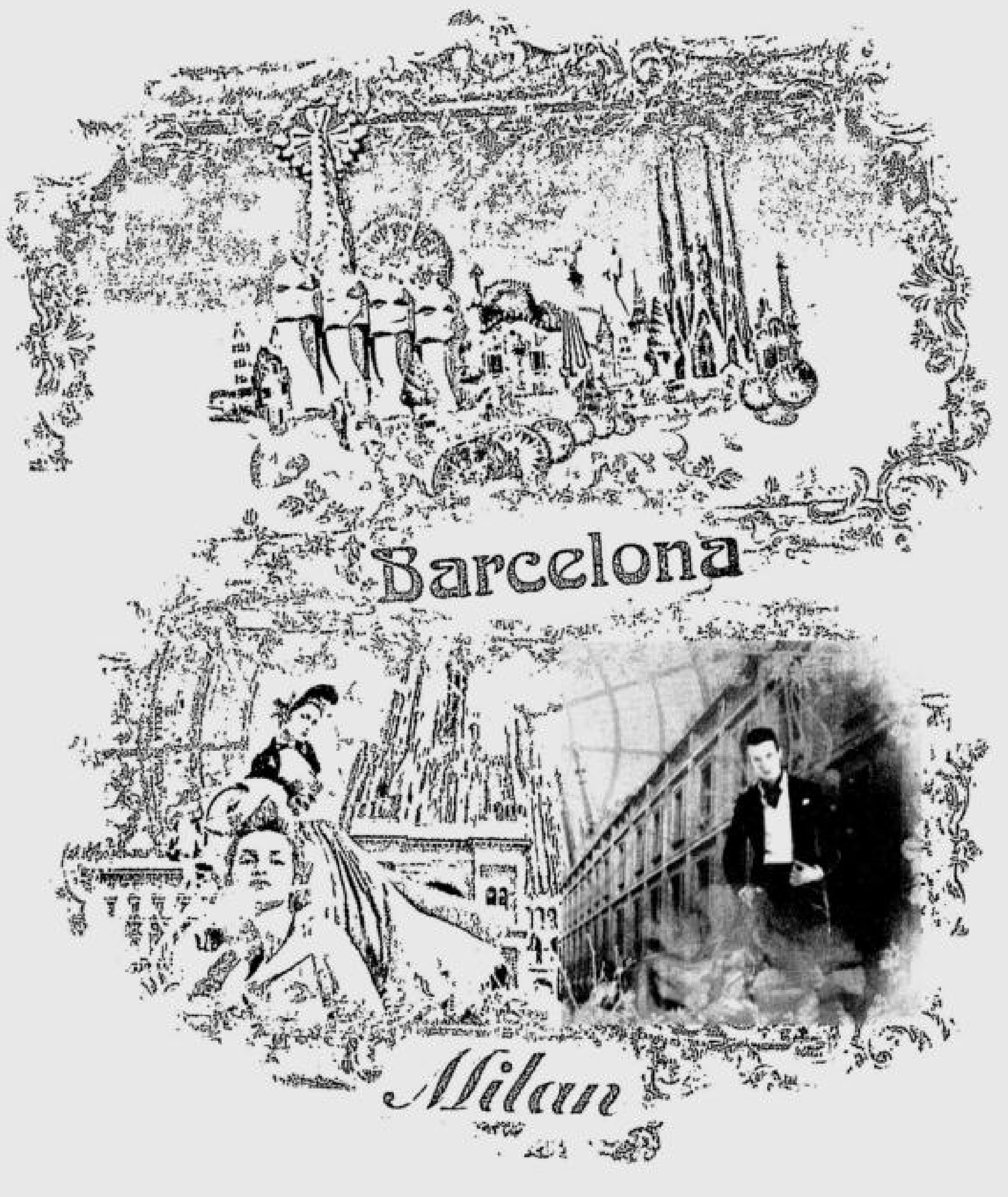

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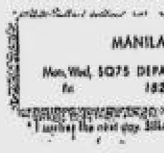

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* arriving the next day. SilkAir flights from Cebu and Davao connect conveniently with this new service.

Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSEM)
Philippine Specialty Board of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSBEM)

The Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSEM) and the Philippine Specialty Board of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSBEM) would like to congratulate the newest diplomates of the society who passed the written and oral exams last July 15 and 16, 2006.

The society is the only regulatory board of endocrinology in the Philippines. It sets the standards and requirements for fellowship training programs in the specialty and accredits these programs. A subcommittee of the PSEM, the PSBEM, certifies new diplomates. The board confers fellowships upon its diplomates following a peer review.

Philippine Specialty Board of Endocrinology and Metabolism

2006 Certifying Examination in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

July 15-16, 2006

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Aragon, Jimmy B., MD, FPCP

Chua-Agcaoili, Ma. Theresa, MD, FPCP

Corvera, Kristine Denise S., MD FPCP

Cunanan, Elaine C., MD, FPCP

Dela Peña, Pepito E., MD, FPCP

Doroin-Tranate, Yolanda S., MD, FPCP

Fojas, Mia C., MD, FPCP

Gaña, Arlene C., MD, FPCP

Gutierrez, Mary Jane C., MD, FPCP

Lagula-Bilocura, Imelda R., MD, FPCP

Lim-Alba, Rebecca T., MD, FPCP

Lumapas, Cherrie Gail R., MD, FPCP

Magboo-Gaviola, Maria Leisa C., MD, FPCP

Matawaran, Bien J., MD, FPCP

Narvacan-Montano, Carolyn R., MD, FPCP

Nicodemus, Nemencio A., Jr., MD, FPCP

Oribio, Raymond U., MD, FPCP

Rosales-Paredes, Floranie, MD, FPCP

Saragena-Cutillar, Consolacion MD, FPCP

Siguan-Crisaldo, Maria Arlene L., MD, FPCP

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Tongol, Mary Rose T., MD, FPCP

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Valerio, Elvira E., MD, FPCP

Valdez-Faller, Theresa Marie, MD, FPCP

Verastigue-Custodio, Myla C., MD, FPCP

Villa, Michael L., MD, FPCP

Wagan-Bilar, Lynn F., MD, FPCP

Wassmer, Gia D., MD, FPCP

Yu-Mallen, Leslie Ann C., MD, FPCP

What is endocrinology?

Endocrinology is the study of cell to cell communication by messenger molecules called hormones. Endocrinology studies the system which controls and adjusts many of the body's most important physiologic functions, including reproduction, growth and development, and energy balance.

As a discipline, clinical endocrinology is largerly concerned with the consequences of either excessive or deficient hormone secretion and cover diseases such as: diabetes, thyroid disorders, obesity, dyslipidemia, osteoporosis and other metabolic problems.

What is an endocrinologist?

In the Philippines, an endocrinologist is either an internist or a pediatrician who has completed an additional 2 years of study in an accredited fellowship training program in endocrinology. A Reproductive endocrinologist is an obstetrician with further training in the endocrine aspects of pregnancy (especially infertility) and the climacterium.

PSEM Mission & Vision

Our Mission

To lead in the pursuit of excellence in Endocrinology

Our Vision

Quality Endocrine care, education and research in every region of the Philippines by 2010

Our Values

Integrity

Intellectual honesty and a deep sense of professionalism distinguish us.
We keep an open mind to ideas but are uncompromising on matters of principle.
We resolutely adhere to the noblest standards of ethics in relating with people and in practicing Medicine

Caring Service

Intermediaries of God and man in sustaining life,
We caringly serve the sick to the best of our ability.
Concern for our mutual growth at PSEM makes us deal with one another in candor.
We share knowledge as we endeavor to advance endocrine care in our country.

Excellence

Ministering to life demands our best.
Thus we continuously seek new knowledge to be always at our best.
Our mentors, champions of excellence, inspiringly enhance our knowledge and skills.
We repay them by enthusiastically cascading our learning to our colleagues.

Respect

We respect human dignity and thus accord all patients humane treatment.
Respectful of diversity and individual capabilities, we can function alternately at PSEM as effective leaders and followers, the secret of our successful teamwork.
We strictly observe punctuality, our courtesy to other people's time.
Meritorious deeds and contributions by our colleagues earn our highest esteem.

Commitment

We are focused achievers who are passionate about responsibility
We keep our needs simple but our ideals lofty, the keys to our reliability even in crisis.
PSEM ideals shall never die: we keep them fresh through constant renewal.
Happiness to us means being viewed by our patients, their families, our peers and the public as Trustworthy (Maaasahan).

Brief history of PSEM

The Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSEM) was founded in 1962 when a group of physicians and scientists with a special interest in endocrinology banded together to facilitate the exchange of new knowledge in the field, encourage mutual help in the study of specific problems, and promote the advancement of the specialty in the Philippines.

Dr. Augusto D. Litonjua and Mr. Meneleo Hernandez, brought together 16 individuals interested in endocrinology and the first officers of the society were inducted: Dr. Augusto D. Litonjua as the first president; Dr. Gabriel Carreon, the Vice-President; Dr. Elena-Eustaquio-Icayan, the secretary-treasurer, and the Board of Directors - Dr. Violeta Angara, Dr. Leticia Angeles, Dr. Carmen Asuncion, Dr. Asuncion Bernales, Dr. Benjamin Buensuceso, Dr. Jesus Nolasco, Dr. Alfredo Ortiz, Dr. Carmen Salgado-Ora and Dr. Leland Villadolid.

In 1964, PSEM was accepted as a member of the International Society of Endocrinology. In 1966, the PSEM Constitution and By-Laws was adopted. It was filed and approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 4, 1966.

The Nineties saw the rapid growth of the Society. As the organization grew, each of the presidents built on the successes of their predecessors while dealing with the respective challenges brought about by the latest rapid developments in endocrinology and metabolism. Fellowship training programs in endocrinology were streamlined, standards and requirements for hospital accreditation were formulated.

In line with the society's objectives of expanding its training institutions, in addition to the UP - Philippine General Hospital and Makati Medical Center, the PSEM has accredited the Endocrine Traning Programs of the University of Santo Tomas and St. Luke's Medical Center.

The Society has had the privilege to host important international endocrine events like the 7th Meeting of Asean and Pacific Endocrine Societies in 1994 and the 8th Congress of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies in 1995 and 2005.

Continuing medical education activities include the Interhospital Endocrine Grand Rounds which serve as a platform for intellectual discussion among experts, allowing participants to share their thoughts and expertise in the area of endocrinology. It showcases interesting cases as well as common cases with interesting twists.

Endocrine postgraduate courses and annual conventions are also held to provide a review and an update of the recent developments in the field of endocrinology.

Outreach provincial activities like the endocrine workshop on thyroid disorders was started in 1999 and weekend course in endocrinology in September 2000. Diabetes Updates, a venue for cutting edge lectures on the latest trends in diabetes were started in 2001.

A yearly Endocrine Fellows Research Forum stimulates interest in research in the field. The Society has also been awarding the PSEM Research Grant in Endocrinology for deserving research questions. The society has also involved itself in the National Nutritional and Health Survey of 2003, and is actively networking with the different component societies of the Philippine College of Physicians as well as the Department of Health and other government and non-government organizations.

The official newsletter, "PSEM Endocrine Update" is published quarterly, focusing on highlights from various scientific meetings and journal excerpts. It also includes information that requires dissemination to the members.

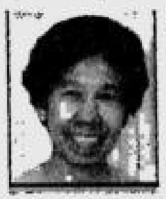
Aside from these, the PSEM thrust includes patient advocacy with lay forums for diabetes and the thyroid conducted simultaneously with symposia for physicians.

Over the years, under successive leadership, the Society has undergone revitalization and evolved to what it is today - a specialty of the Philippine Medical Association, a component society of the Philippine College of Physicians, a founding member of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies and a member of the International Society of Endocrinology.

Today, 43 years since its formation, emboldened with renewed interest and a crop of young endocrinologists, the PSEM has reaffirmed its goals with the mission of improving the practice of endocrinology in the Philippines.

The Officers and Directors of the PSEM enjoin all members and everyone supporting the upliftment of the practice to join us in as we move toward a common objective.

Philippine Specialty Board of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSBEM)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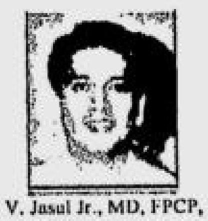
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Pasay cops apologize to Jinggoy

SIX PASAY CITY POlicemen yesterday went to the office of opposition Sen. Jinggoy Ejercito-Estrada to apologize for trying to arrest him in the Senate last week in connection with a P10-million libel case filed by First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo.

Police Supt. Simon Gonzales, Chief Insp. Reynaldo Ulic and Fernando Sayno, SPOs Eduardo Juarbol, Danilo Buenavista and Benigno Robedillo trooped to Estrada's office to say sorry. They were accompanied by Supt. Ronaldo Sabog, head of the Southern Police District board of inquiry tasked to investigate the attempted arrest of the senator.

Only the intervention of Senate President Manuel Villar saved the day for Estrada. Villar and other senators rallied around Estrada, saying the Constitution vested members of Congress with immunity from arrest for offenses punishable with fewer than six years' imprisonment and while Congress was in session.

"Sorry, I was just jolted into saying that," Buenavista told Estrada. Buenavista was the policeman who protested Villar's intervention, telling him he would have no explanation if Malacañang called up to ask why they failed to arrest Estrada. *Juliet Labog-Javellana*

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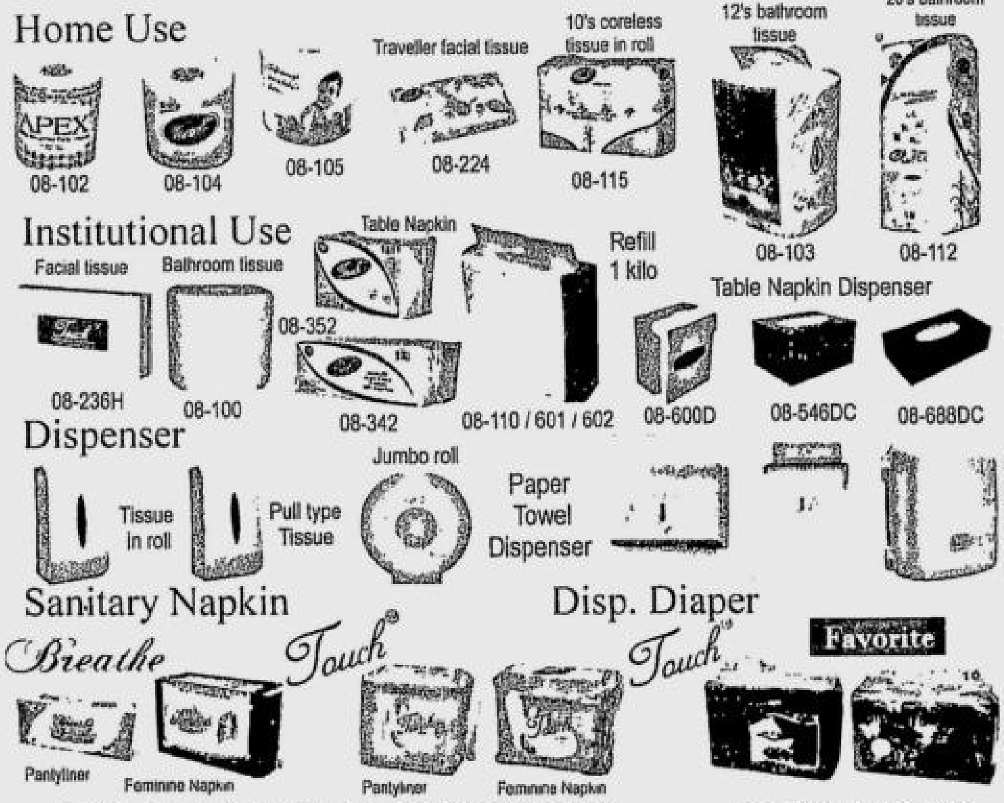

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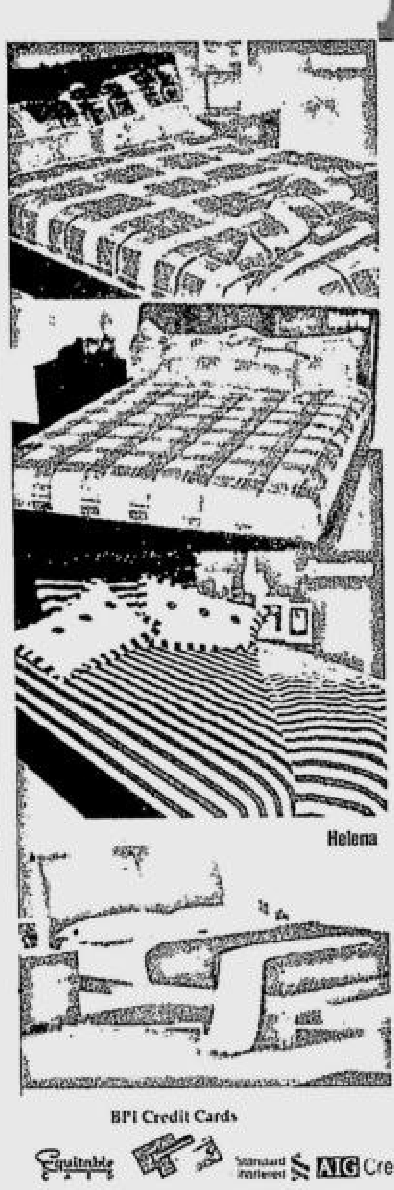

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Cleaning mangroves waste of time, says expert

By Hazel P. Villa
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—"IT IS A WASTE OF time and energy cleaning up the oil stuck in the mangroves of Guimaras," said a mangrove scientist, debunking some practices to mitigate the damage caused by the country's worst oil spill.

Residents of Guimaras affected by the oil slick should not bother cleaning up the mangroves because the role of mangroves is to trap and filter pollutants, said Severino Salmo III, a coastal resource management consultant for Pangasinan and Zambales.

Salmo said the mangroves would eventually die after trapping the pollutants.

The 32-year-old scientist, who had done a thesis on the impact of oil spills on mangroves in 2000, said that no amount of cleaning would bring oil-covered mangroves back to life.

Salmo has been chosen by the Philippine Social Science Council as a Ford fellow-elect to take his Ph D in marine studies at the University of Queensland in Australia next year.

Some 500 ha (1,235 acres) of mangroves have been damaged as of this week, according to Guimaras Gov. JC Rahman Nava.

The MT Solar I that sank off the coast of Guimaras on Aug. 11 had spewed out more than 350,000 liters of bunker fuel oil and was leaking between 200 and 300 liters of oil per hour as of Tuesday, said Vice Admiral Arturo Gosingan of the Philippine Coast Guard.

Salmo said that as natural filters, the roots of mangroves do the breathing for the plant and absorb all the oil in the sediments around it. In order to breathe, he said, the mangrove would produce a lot of new smaller but abnormal leaves.

What looks like growth is actually a coping mechanism of the mangrove called phytoaccumulation so that it could breathe, according to Salmo.

However, he said, it may eventually die because its breathing "organs" called lenticels found in the roots and primary stems were clogged with oil.

"There is no remedy to save the mangroves already affected by the oil slick. Let them die," said Salmo, who is studying for a Ph D in environmental science at the University of the Philippines in Diliman where he also obtained his Master of Science degree in environmental science.

He said sprinkling with dispersants and vacuuming or manually removing oil in the affected mangroves of Guimaras may only re-suspend oil in the sediments, making it resurface again and spread to other areas.

"What is highly dangerous is disturbing the oil that has settled in the sediments. The mixture may retain oil for at least 20 years. Sediments in mangrove soil is more compacted, therefore, the oil retention capacity is higher," Salmo said.

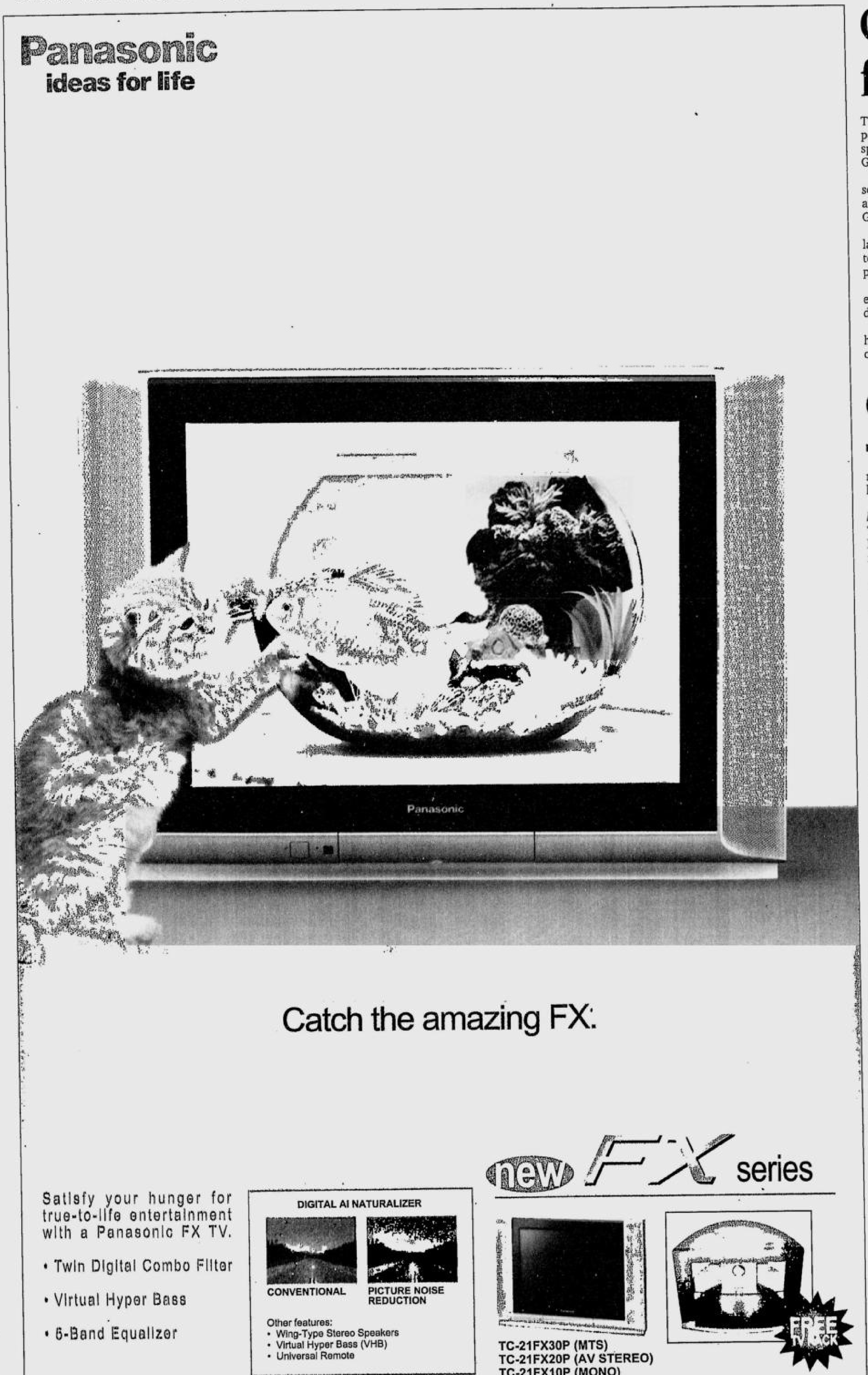
He said the oil should remain stuck in the sediments until it naturally dissipates, to prevent further damage to other coastal ecosystems and resources.

Guimaras residents have the option of replanting in and around oil-covered mangrove areas to minimize the impact of the oil spill, according to Salmo.

"The sediment belt of zero to 20 cm in mangrove areas is critical because this is the zone of accumulation for nutrients and pollutants. Planting mangroves there can lessen the impact of the oil slick damage but cannot totally erase the destruction," said Salmo.

At this point, stopping the oil from getting anywhere near mangrove areas is a better prevention method than removing the oil from the mangroves.

DR. JOSETTE Biyo (left) and her team of science research
Barangay Tando, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras.



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Coast Guard for feathers,

THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD YESTERDAY APpealed for chicken feathers and human hair to help sponge up one of the country's worst oil spills off Guimaras Island.

"We are appealing for a supply of indigenous absorbent materials like chicken feathers, human hair and rice straw," Harold Jarder, head of the Coast Guard in Iloilo, said.

Jarder said San Miguel Corp., Southeast Asia's largest food and beverage conglomerate, promised to donate a ton of chicken feathers a day from its plants in Iloilo and nearby Bacolod City.

Officials at San Miguel, the country's largest seller of poultry products, confirmed the plan but said details were still being worked out.

Les Reyes, owner of one of the country's largest hairdressing chains, said his 200 shops had started collecting hair clippings on Tuesday.

"This is in response to the call of Greenpeace,"

Oil spill threate

From page A1

marine life will not have enough oxygen to survive, he said.

The giant clams (*Tridacna squamosa, Tridacna hippopus hippopus, Tridacna crocea, Tridacna gigas, Tridacta maxima*) are described as being among the largest clams in the world, according to Sagay Marine Reserve superintendent Mayo Antonio Cueva.

They grow algae in their bodies as a source of food.

It is illegal to catch and sell the giant clams, which are endangered, Cueva said.

He said personnel of the marine reserve were preparing bamboo poles to prevent the oil from entering the reserve.

In a tie-up with the Silliman University Marine Laboratory, Alcala began providing technical assistance in the late '70s as part of early efforts at marine conservation by Sagay.

The 32,000-ha marine reserve is home to coral reefs, sea grass, algal beds and mangrove forests, according to Cueva.

"We have been protecting the Sagay Marine Reserve from poachers for 35 years but we have no way of protecting it from the oil spill," said former

Guimaras sea g

From page A1

life that depend on the calm habitat of the sea grass for survival.

Biyo had studied the sea grass beds of Tando in 1999 and 2000 for her thesis that earned her a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Biology in 2001. She had not been back to Tando until she heard the news of the oil spill affecting the area.

Biyo visited Barangay Tando (pop: 1,000) on Aug. 20, nine days after MT Solar I sank 30 km southwest of Guimaras, releasing more than 200,000 liters of fuel into the sea and causing one of the biggest oil spills in the country.

Science research teachers

Tando is a community of fishers, which depends on the bounty of coastal waters nourished by its corals, mangroves and 20 ha of sea grass meadows, said to be the biggest in all of Guimaras Island.

Biyo led seven science research teachers in investigating what is said to be the worst disaster affecting the rich coastal ecosystem of Guimaras.

Together with Zennifer Oberio, Rowena Labrador, Virna Jane Navarro, Harold Mediodia, Angelo Olvido, Wiliam Laride, Edward Albaracin and Oliver Fuentispina, Biyo combed the oil-smeared sea grass beds of Tando, to determine the impact of the pollutants on the marine ecosystem.

They checked the temperature of the water, oxygen levels, and looked for filterable solids and soluble oil on organic sediments, among other things.

Biyo said she and her team would visit Tando every month to monitor the sea grass beds.

They will also take along some of their students to teach residents how to deal with the oil spill.

Sea grass is not true grass but marine flowering plants complete with roots, stems and leaves. They are found submerged in estuaries and shal-

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eachers inspect sea grass in
MA. DIOSA LABISTE / INQUIRER VISAYAS

irs appeal uman hair

Reyes said, adding he had also asked other salons to donate hair to the Coast Guard.

Jarder said the chicken feathers and human hair would be placed in sacks tied to bamboo poles and placed along the coastlines of affected villages.

Some communities in Guimaras are already using rice straw in sacks to try to contain the spill that may spread in a northeast direction toward the islands of Negros, Cebu and Masbate.

In Concepcion, Iloilo, residents said they were taking preemptive action before the floating bunker oil could hurt their livelihood.

"Operators of fish pens and ponds not hit by the oil spill were forced to harvest fish," Mayor Raul Banias said.

Petron said it was employing 869 people per day in Guimaras, paying them P200 each, to clean the beaches and mangrove trees of the black sludge. *Reuters*

ns giant clams

Rep. Alfredo Marañon, who started the reserve.

Also threatened by the oil spill are the blue crabs in the waters of EB Magalona town, 24 km north of here.

EB Magalona Mayor Alfonso Gamboa said residents of his town were harvesting four to five tons of blue crabs a day and selling these at P125 per kilo, which translates to total earnings of between P500,000 and P600,000.

The crabs most vulnerable to the spill are those caught through the gill net method. They are caught by people while swimming on the surface, Gamboa said.

Even if the crabs survive an oil spill, which is now just 2 km from the shoreline of EB Magalona, people would not buy them, he said.

If the oil spill moves any closer, the first casualty would be the fish pens and crab fishing, according to Gamboa. If it reaches the shore, the oyster and mussel beds will be affected.

There are 3,200 families directly and indirectly engaged in blue crab fishing in EB Magalona, he said.

About 40 percent or 5,000 families of the town are dependent on marine resources for their livelihood, he said.

rass is dying

low coastal waters. They reproduce by pollination.

Pastures of the ocean

Although not as well studied as coral reefs or as imposing as mangroves areas, sea grass communities are productive and dynamic ecosystems. They are the pastures of the ocean, providing food, breeding grounds and nurseries for fish, shrimps, crabs and shellfish.

Sea grass is the only food of the dugong, or sea cow, which were sighted in Tando.

The rhizomes and roots of sea grass bind and stabilize the near-shore bottom, where microorganisms recycle nutrients back into the marine ecosystem. Sea grass beds calm down the waves and filter suspended sediments from the water.

Sixteen species

The Philippines has 16 reported species of sea grass out of 58 known worldwide.

Biyo identified six species found in the coastal areas of Tando, including *Thalassia hemprichii*, the most abundant in the area, and *Enhalus acoroides*, the largest sea grass species in the world.

With its relatively healthy sea grass, mangroves and corals, Tando is not wanting in fish and shellfish. The women, both young and old, gleaned shellfish for the table and market. Fishing boats do not have to sail far and they do not go home empty-handed.

Due to the oil spill, fishing is now banned. The fish available in Tando are canned sardines from the food rations given by the Guimaras provincial government.

At P200 a day, the men were hired to scoop up the bunker fuel on the beaches or in shallow waters. Some were tasked with wiping off oil from the rocks by the beach. But the women were not given work even if they also supported their families by gathering shellfish.

IN THE KNOW

P100-M cleanup cost just a drop in the ocean

WITH A NET INCOME OF P2.7 billion in the first six months of the year, Petron Corp. should have no difficulty shouldering the cleanup cost of the Guimaras oil spill.

The net income of the country's leading oil company from January to June is around P400 million higher than the P2.3 billion that Petron made in the same period last year. The corporation had a total net income of P6 billion in 2005.

Earlier this week, the Philippine Coast Guard considered the idea of requiring Petron and Sunshine Maritime Development Corp., owner of the sunken tanker MT Solar I, to post a bond of P100 million for cleanup operations. But Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza later said there was no need for such a bond as Petron had been releasing funds for the cleanup.

In December last year, an oil barge of National Power Corp. sank off the shore of Semirara in Antique, spilling almost 200,000 liters of oil and contaminating about 40 sq km of water off Semirara. The Philippine Coast Guard estimated cleanup costs to reach P80 million. *Inquirer Research*

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OPINION

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Red-baiting

EDITORIAL

NORBERTO GONZALES IS MORE MILD-mannered than his Cabinet colleague, Raul Gonzalez. Visiting the House Session Hall during the debate on the impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo Wednesday night, the justice secretary told a government TV reporter: "That's why there's a sergeant at arms and a mace; they should use it. If it were me, I would have refused to enter the session hall and cleared the galleries, then locked the doors." He was obviously mad at administration critics. But even if Gonzales talks more softly than Gonzalez, they both believe in the same thing: the mailed fist.

The national security adviser is concerned about communism. In particular, he suspects that there are communists in the media. "There are big possibilities in the media that there are some practitioners being courted by enemies of the state and probably successfully," he warned. "We are profiling everybody as you are profiling us."

We do not know of any media outfit that keeps dossiers on government officials, unless the newspaper morgue where old issues are filed away can be considered as one. We are more than familiar with the propensity of military and other officials during martial law for compiling dossiers on journalists. Some of our columnists and editors had their dossiers waved at them during interrogations at that time. We thought, however, that the era of intelligence files on writers had passed with the Marcos dictatorship. But apparently, we thought wrong. Dossiers are back, and Gonzales is compiling them.

Gonzales believes that "media practitioners are either mercenaries or sympathizers who will continue to create issues even though they know they are helping the leftist cause." He claims that the media have been infiltrated by communists. Not that everyone in media is a communist, he says. What's more important "is not ... their numbers or percentage but if they are able to present their views effectively." And he thinks they're doing that.

In case anyone thought Gonzales was just being eccentric, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, a military officer during martial law, did his share to underline Gonzales' message of the day. "It's a cause for concern," Ermita stated. "If we know who they are, we should make sure they do not commit any overt act that violates the Revised Penal Code." Which incidentally also sends the firm message that proposed legislation to purge the Penal Code of its colonial and antidemocratic provisions isn't going to prosper.

The national security adviser unblinkingly said this, too, in expectation of the hackles his statement would raise among media people and the public: "But so far, you have observed that the government has not in any way clamped down on media. Our attitude is that these are additional challenges to us."

It should be pointed out, however, that if the clampdown on the media has not become permanent, it is not for lack of trying on the part of the President's team. Rather it is because the media have been vigilant, the public has expressed its anxiety over attempts to muzzle the press and the courts have restrained the executive from violating the freedom of the press.

What the Palace suggests is an interpretation of the role of the press in a state-controlled environment. Is it the duty of the press to praise and lead the cheering for officials? Is it in the interest of the public for the press to ignore human rights violations, and the "collateral damage" resulting from military activities in the provinces, and the Palace's heightened tendency toward belligerence when it comes to the other branches of government? Must every opinion piece remind us of the days when editorials and columns praised every initiative and project of the government and every news report recalls the infamous headline during Ninoy Aquino's funeral march: "Lightning kills one"?

An administration that protects the national security honorably, conducts military operations humanely and governs well has nothing to fear from the media. Any ideology is toothless if unarmed with the weapons that feed its purposes, and when it comes to the news, the armaments that count are facts. If there are no abuses, there will be no bad news for the media to report.

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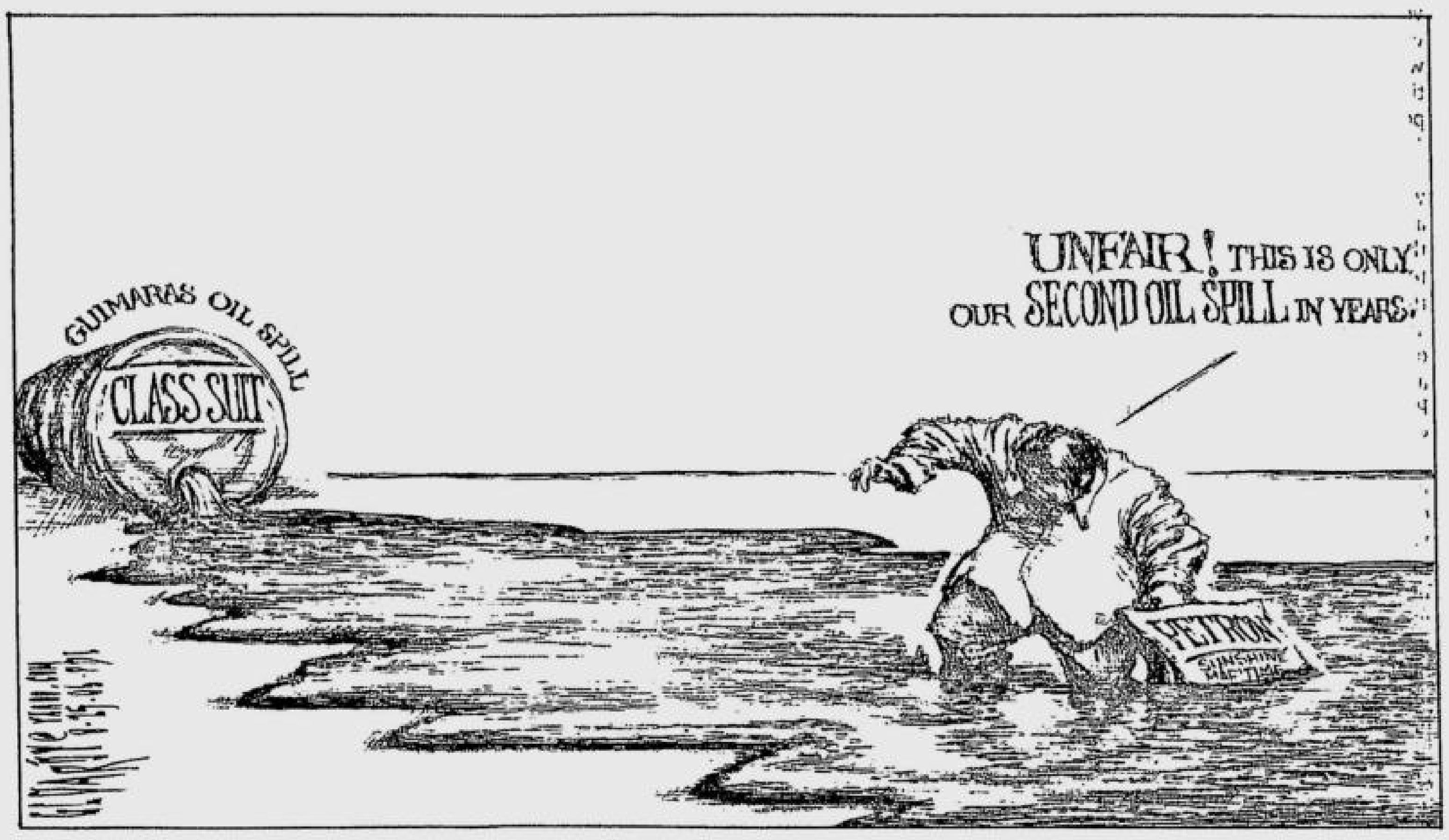

Plant fire trees along Commonwealth

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

WHEN IS AN IMPEACHMENT COMPLAINT not "sufficient in substance"? That is the reason given by the justice committee of the House of Representatives in killing the impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo. Is it when there is not enough evidence against the accused or when his/her allies in the House simply decide to kill the complaint? How can there be enough evidence when the committee refuses to open even just one of seven boxes of evidence?

Not even seven truckloads of evidence would be enough for the majority congressmen because they don't want to look at them. They have made up their minds from the very beginning to throw out the impeachment complaint and make the President happy so that she will be more generous with her help for friendly congressmen in next year's elections.

What the majority of Filipinos already know and have witnessed—cheating in the 2004 elections, muzzling dissent, abetting extrajudicial killings and receiving *jueteng* kickbacks—the majority of congressmen don't even want to hear. I think Rep. Simeon Datumanong is in the wrong place as chair of the justice committee. He would be in his element if he headed the Philippine National Railroad.

The second impeachment setback is not a total loss, however. We have just been given a glimpse of what will happen in our legislature if we make the mistake of changing our Constitution and shift to a parliamentary system. That is a classic example of the so-called "tyranny of the majority" in the legislature, when numbers overwhelm justice, logic and reason, and the legislators behave more like the Mafia than representatives of the people.

If we have a parliamentary system, most of the members of parliament will most likely be the present congressmen and you now have an idea what that means. The PNR will operate in parliament and the MPs will operate more like Ali Baba and the 40 thieves.

If now, with a bicameral Congress, the congressmen can do what they are doing, imagine what they would do when we have a parliamentary system and there is no Senate to balance the parliament and the prime minister and the Cabinet members are also members of parliament. There would be no checks and balances in government. The MPs can do whatever they want, and you know what that means. It is like letting loose hungry crocodiles and snakes in the hen house.

* * *

Enough of sad stories and let's focus on something happy. Today will be the launching of the Green Philippine Highway Program, which is a nationwide activity to plant millions of trees along 3.439 kilometers of major Philippine highways stretching from Laoag, Ilocos Norte, to Davao City. Conceived by Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes, the program will draw a record two million volunteers to plant an initial half-million tree saplings today. The activity will continue until the whole stretch of highways from north to south of the archipelago is planted with trees.

I have only one question on this: Where will the DENR get all the saplings for this? The best part of the activity, however, is this: The government—hence, the taxpayers—will not spend a single centavo in this activity. The trees will be "adopted" by the private sector like businesses, non-government organizations, civic groups and other organizations which will also participate in the actual planting of trees. These groups will take care of the trees for at least three years, after which they should be big enough to survive on their own. "Adoptors" will be given certificates by the DENR after the three-year period.

Trees have many benefits, among them the improvement of air quality (the Philippines has the second most polluted air in Asean, second only to Indonesia), minimizing soil erosion, absorbing water and lessening flooding while recharging our water table, and providing a habitat for birds and insects. "In addition, the program will contribute to the beautification of our landscape, making travel more pleasurable while also acting as sound barriers for nearby communities," said Reyes.

Trees to be planted will be those that are indigenous to the areas to ensure their survival, Reyes said. I propose that trees with bright, profuse blossoms be chosen to beautify our landscape. This will be good for tourism. I suggest this because the biggest tourist attraction of the New England states of America during autumn are their trees. During fall, foreign and domestic tourists flock to the eastern seaboard, especially Vermont, for "foliage tours." The New England landscapes burst in a riot of colors as the leaves turn to all shades of red, orange, yellow, mauve, brown, etc. and tourists spend good money to gawk at them. The hills, mountains, fields, backyards, parks and roadsides are full of colorful trees. The ancestors of the New Englanders were thoughtful enough to plant many trees.

Since we do not have autumn here and, except for the talisay and santol, the leaves of our trees don't change color, let's plant trees that bear colorful blossoms like the fire tree, golden shower, narra, banaba, etc. Even the lowly kakawati, which is so easy to grow, bear profuse pink blossoms that rival the famous cherry blossoms of Japan.

That is why I propose that fire trees be planted along both sides of Commonwealth Avenue from the Quezon Memorial Circle to La Mesa Park (and beyond?). Imagine how beautiful that stretch would be when the trees start to flower in three to five years. We would have two straight lines of trees on fire marching from one park to another.

Wrong lessons from Exxon Valdez

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

GIVEN THE SCALE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL emergency, Petron seems too laid back in responding to the Guimaras oil spill. Either Petron has not learned any lesson from the Exxon Valdez oil spill of 1989, or it has learned one wrong lesson only too well: that it can shift the blame elsewhere and eventually wash its hands of any responsibility. "ExxonMobil's tactics are well-known ... a classic case of deny, dupe and delay," said Greenpeace.

On March 24, 1989, minutes past midnight, the oil tanker Exxon Valdez struck a reef in pristine waters in Alaska, spilling more than 11 million gallons of crude oil, the worst oil spill in US history.

First, for the lesson that we're not so sure the government or Petron bothered to learn. The first action of the US Coast Guard was to immediately close the area to traffic, and dispatch investigators to the scene to assess the damage. By noon the next day, a state and a federal response team was formed. Thereafter the local oil industry group assumed responsibility for the cleanup, in accordance with existing contingency plans.

Three methods were tried in the effort to clean up the spill: "burning" (during the earliest stages of the spill), then "chemical dispersants" (within the first 24 hours), and then "mechanical cleanup" (after the first 24 hours of the spill).

Now, for the part of the lesson that Petron may like better. Today, 17 years after the incident, Exxon has continued to block the 1994 award of $287 million for actual damages and $4.5 billion for punitive damages, equivalent to a single year's profit by Exxon at that time. Still pending appeal right now, a verdict is expected next month.

Even the supposed culprit, Joseph Hazelwood, the ship captain when Exxon Valdez ran aground, has gotten off easy. He had consumed at least three drinks before boarding the ship, but he was acquitted of operating the tanker while drunk. Indeed critics say that the true cause wasn't human error by a drunken skipper, but Exxon's decision not to fix the ship's radar, a colossal example of wasteful penny-pinching.

Thirteen days ago, in our own neck of the seas, the oil tanker Solar 1 sank off Guimaras island. Some 50,000 gallons of oil have leaked from the sunken vessel, causing widespread damage to marine parks, beaches and fishing grounds. The Coast Guard reports continuing seepage of oil from leakages in the holding tanks, believed to hold some 450,000 gallons of bunker fuel.

"Time is of the essence. The tanker spills around 25 to 50 gallons per hour or some 1,000 gallons per day," local activists have protested, citing a threat of "cataclysmic proportions every minute." Greenpeace has warned that, unless the tanker is brought to the surface soon, the ship's remaining tanks could rupture and spill the remaining fuel. The oil slick has already coated at least 300 kilometers of Guimaras' coast, and has begun to spread to Iloilo.

Thus far Petron seems to have listened more to its lawyers than to its PR consultants. (But, hey, this strategy has worked magnificently for President Macapagal-Arroyo!) Petron has disowned any legal or contractual duty to give either aid or to post a P100-million bond to pay for the cleanup as required under pertinent Coast Guard regulations. "Petron, as a mere cargo owner, did not cause the spill and had no part whatsoever in the operation of the vessel which met the unfortunate incident." The duty to reverse the damage "rests with the ship owner who is covered by insurance for an event like this."

Greenpeace lambasts Petron's stand as the "height of irresponsibility and callous corporate conduct."

"It is sad to think that Petron, from where the oil came, is now washing its hands of accountability for the oil spill," Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla said.

"My [constituents in] Concepcion [have] reported that today chunks [of emulsified oil] as big as tires can be found floating near the area," Iloilo Rep. Rolex Suplico lamented.

Public authorities speak of corporate responsibility. But in stark contrast is the cold, pitiless response of the market. Petron is a publicly listed company, and indeed Petron has publicly washed its hands in its disclosure report to the Philippine Stock Exchange. Yet watch what happened to Petron shares: instead of plummeting, they rose by 1.27 percent. Even in the United States, the post-spill stock market reaction was just as apathetic; Exxon's stocks have climbed more than $20 billion since the spill.

Legal sanctions nonetheless remain. First of all, Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) has urged prosecution under the Clean Water Act for polluters who do not clean up after themselves.

Second, there is tort liability, meaning, not based on contract or on statute, but on the general duty to act responsibly or, failing that, to compensate the victims. For instance, any injured Guimaras resident, including that German resort owner whose investments were laid to waste, may sue both Petron and the ship owner for millions of pesos in damages. Thus, Petron cannot shirk its duties by hiding behind the ship's owner.

Finally, Exxon promised to pay $900 million over 10 years to state and federal authorities, and a fine of $250 million as restitution for the victims. The litmus test of our government's resolve is a negotiated settlement with Petron as a separate corporate entity, and enforcing the fundamental principle that the polluter must pay.

* * *

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

House vote killed public accountability

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

THE 173-32 VOTE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES yesterday morning to dismiss the second impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo was as decisive as the 158-51 vote that killed the first complaint last year. There were switches: Seven of the 51 representatives who voted for impeachment last year voted this time to adopt the House committee on justice report dismissing the complaint on the grounds of "insufficiency of substance."

This switch is the least important aspect of the vote. The outcome was so predictable that it was anti-climactic. It demonstrated the raw power of the majority coalition in the House to crush attempts to impeach Ms Arroyo, and it highlighted the weakness of the opposition and the imbalance in the party system which allows the tyranny of the majority to prevail. In the votes last year and this year, we have seen the dysfunction of Philippine democracy and its inability to give substance to the principle of checks and balances.

It should not escape notice that despite the marginal switches, the assailants of the second complaint were almost the same as those of last year's complaint. Administration allies are gloating over their assassination of the second complaint, with some of them claiming it was a blow for democracy, with the rule of the majority being upheld. The committee chair, Rep. Simeon Datumanong, erroneously put it this way: "Perhaps, the most important lesson learned from these political proceedings is not that the advantage of numbers has once again prevailed, but that respect for the greater number is for the greater good is necessary to preserve our present democratic ideas."

That the House majority vote was "necessary to preserve our present democratic ideas" I beg to disagree. True, democracy is also a numbers game, but it is never advanced when the numbers are used to assassinate a very important principle in democracy: the accountability of elected officials, from the President down to members of Congress, to the sovereign people who elected them.

Indeed, the deployment of overwhelming numbers in the House allowed the President to quash two impeachment actions in two years. She is, for now, safely barricaded in the Palace and the siege has been lifted, with the crushing of the complaints. But in the aftermath of the mayhem in the House plenary debates, the majority who did not permit the evidence to be presented and blocked the complaint from going to the Senate for a public impeachment trial delivered a mortal blow to the notion of accountability, embodied in the impeachment process.

The casualty of these two impeachment exercises has been accountability, which was sacrificed so that Ms Arroyo could have a longer political life. The majority proved to be Ms Arroyo's savior, but blood is on their hands for assassinating the impeachment mode as an expression of the principle of accountability, using the rules of procedure as their weapon.

What has been left in the gore-stained arena of the House is the corpse of impeachment as a constitutional and non-violent method of making officials accountable to the people and, more importantly, removing officials, especially the President, from office for abuse of power and betrayal of public trust.

When the republican Roman senators assassinated Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. in the forum, they claimed to have done so to save the republic from a nascent dictatorship. But their real victim was neither Caesar nor his dictatorship, but the republic itself. They got rid of Caesar, but the assassination did not save the republic. It gave birth to another monster more fearful and hideous than the one they slew; the blood on the forum sowed the seeds of the long dynasty of Caesarean emperors beginning with Augustus, Caesar's nephew. The republic did not survive the assassination.

What was assassinated in the House vote yesterday was impeachment as an instrument of accountability leading to the dismissal of abusive officials. Thus, the jubilation of the House leaders and the administration, most of all the President, over the dismissal of the complaint cannot be but short-lived and over the wrong thing. Without realizing it, they were celebrating the mortal wound they have inflicted on the impeachment mode.

When the second complaint was filed, impeachment was already gasping for breath. In the history of failed impeachment attempts of this democratic republic, the people have been increasingly disappointed over the procedure's lack of success. The first time it reached trial in the Senate in the impeachment of former President Joseph Estrada, the trial collapsed toward its end and before a vote was taken. That was a frustrating experience. With the strangulation of the two complaints against Ms Arroyo, the impeachment process has not only been trivialized. The last two experiences have not given the public any reason to expect that the next impeachment action would succeed. Rather than enhancing public confidence in the process to remove venal officials, the two dismissals have heightened skepticism that it will ever work.

The House vote confirmed the failure of the process. With this failure (whatever political factors were responsible for the dismissal of the second complaint), Philippine democracy is in trouble. After the dismissal, there remains a strong undercurrent demanding leadership change. The dismissal has only dammed the current for change. The current will continue to look for other channels to divert its force—whether constitutional or extra-constitutional.

Ho-hum

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

A CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR IN THE UNITED States lost an election largely because his opponent had accused him of being a "non-practicing homosexual."

This was in the 1960s, though, when homophobia was not only openly practiced, but openly taught and encouraged as well. This was also the time when homosexual men were thought to be "security risks," and the presence of a man who either openly professed or simply was suspected of harboring a different sexual orientation in the State or Defense Departments or Armed Forces merited an investigation by Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Hardly acknowledged then was the fact that the only reason homosexual men were security risks was because they were vulnerable to blackmail, given the stigma against homosexuals, with exposure of their sexuality bringing with it the risk of ridicule, embarrassment and shunning.

Fast-forward 40 years. While gay men—"gay" being the term of choice adopted by homosexuals to refer not just to their sexual orientation but to their lifestyle and politics—working in the government are not exactly coming out in droves, I doubt very much if public exposure would merit any kind of investigation or even column inches in newspapers. "Out" a gay senator, congressperson, department secretary or Cabinet member and the reaction, I would guess would be: Ho-hum, so who's next on the list?

Exposure of the "alternate" sexuality of any public figure or celebrity, while still eliciting a few raised eyebrows and speculative gossip, is hardly the stuff that state secrets are made of these days. Gone are the days when one's choice of bedmates—except if they're children—is enough to derail a career or ruin a reputation. The prevailing thinking is that one's sexuality is a private matter, and as long as its exercise does not interfere with one's responsibilities, or poses a danger to public morality or the national treasury (as with Erap and his many mistresses and their avarice), then your privacy should be respected.

* * *

IT'S all very well to be overtaken by nostalgia, to long for years gone by when morals and mores were, well, different from what they are now. But shifts in public and personal attitudes and social reforms happen for a reason.

Most often, the reason is that members of minority groups finally decide that enough is enough and it's time they spoke out and demanded to be recognized as equals, enjoying the same rights and responsibilities as those belonging to dominant groups.

The civil rights movement in the United States may have been triggered by the refusal of Rosa Parks to stay in the back of the bus, but it was preceded and sustained by the efforts of African-American leaders, as well as their friends in campuses, churches and communities, to assert their rights and demand that the government respect these rights and penalize anyone who violated them.

There was a time when the Philippine elite could party non-stop without feeling a twinge of guilt or a stab of conscience. Such a blasé attitude was symbolized by the grand wedding anniversary bash of a Lopez couple, where it was reported that a fountain spouted champagne. That same party would be cited by Ferdinand Marcos as an example of oligarchic excess and used as an excuse to go after the wealth of the old rich families. But even before Marcos' cynical moves, other wealthy business people, stung by the anger and offense the grand fete provoked, began to organize themselves into foundations and NGOs exploring how they could contribute to the building of a fairer society. Such efforts continue to this day.

* * *

SO it has been for the LGBT community. Long confined to the closet, left to molder in the dark where they could express their sexual choices and preferences only clandestinely, under the cover of "respectability," they are now out and proud of it.

While the louder, more flamboyant and thus more visible members of the community are now under fire for not comporting themselves with dignity and decency, the fact is that for decades they were considered the "safe" face of the gay community. Time was when Filipino society was comfortable with the very notion of the *bakla* or *syoki* only if (s)he conformed to the stereotype of what the gay community has termed the "*parlorista*," the gay man who dresses like a woman, acts in an effeminate manner and engages in an innocuous trade. Such gays were considered acceptable and non-threatening, but only if they remained within their narrow circle, and behaved in ways that immediately clued in others as to their sexual orientation. Gays became "threatening" only after they achieved some degree of economic power as well as social and intellectual clout, and only after it became fairly obvious that, really, gays were—and are—everywhere, and that these days it's nearly impossible to tell who's gay or not gay, at least on the basis of dress, manner or behavior alone.

* * *

MIRA Ofreneo, whose letter to the editor appeared in yesterday's INQUIRER, has come up with what's been called the "Mira Matrix" that strives to show how many permutations and combinations there are of sexual identity and behavior. One may be a male who is predominantly sexually attracted to other males, but still appear and behave like a "straight." Or, one may be a male who is predominantly sexually attracted to females, but appear and behave like an effeminate man. Then again, what makes one man effeminate and another macho? The answers vary from country to country, society to society, and from one era to another.

It's a hopeless task, applying the standards of behavior of 40, 50 years ago to present-day situations. As someone famously said: It's time to move on.

The global business of battling climate change

COMMENTARY

Alvin A. Mejia
Institute on Church and Social Issues

IT IS A FACT THAT HUMANS HAVE SIGNIFICANTly contributed to the problem of climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) emanating from various human activities, like power generation, agriculture and waste disposal, have been proven to accelerate the warming of the earth's surface. A rapid change in the earth's temperatures can lead toward extreme weather conditions and bring about changes that can affect every facet of human life, much like those that we are currently seeing today through the various weather-related calamities and disasters.

Only a global solution can address a global problem. Many nations today are involved in the global business of generating, selling and buying "carbon" credits. Carbon credits are financial instruments which represent a quantified reduction of GHG emissions resulting from the implementation of zero or low-GHG emission projects.

The emergence of carbon markets is an offshoot of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. The protocol, which came into force in February 2005, creates legally binding commitments for 38 industrialized countries and 11 transitional economies to bring down their emissions collectively 5.2 percent below their 1990 levels. The protocol also recognizes that reducing global GHG emissions should be done by using flexible mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) which lower the global costs of climate change mitigation.

The CDM encourages the participation of developing countries in the fight against global warming by paving the way toward channeling of clean technologies and financial resources as they become sellers in this global market. Under the CDM, GHG emission reductions resulting from projects in developing countries can be sold to industrialized countries that need such reductions to meet their Kyoto Protocol commitments.

In general, the global carbon business is gradually gaining strength. According to a report of the World Bank, carbon market transactions grew three-fold in 2005 compared to the previous year. The year witnessed the trading of 375 million tons of Carbon Emission Reductions (CERs) from CDM projects.

The average price of carbon instruments is also looking bullish. CERs were traded at an average price of $7 in 2005, which was an increase of $2 from the previous year. It also speculated to be on its way toward attaining higher levels as the end of the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (2012) comes closer.

The United Nations Climate Change Secretariat recently announced that the CDM is estimated to generate more than one billion tons of emission reductions by the end of 2012. The number of CDM projects in the global pipeline has also ballooned to 860 as of August 2006, according to UNEP Riso. CDM projects are gaining strength and numbers, but the problem of uneven geographical distribution of projects and CER generation still remains. For example, 79 out of the 102 registered CDM projects in Asia are located in only two countries: India and China.

The Philippines has been quite sluggish in the CDM arena. The 2012 estimated CER generation of the current projects in the Philippine CDM pipeline accounts for only 0,2 percent of the projected CER generation of Asian countries.

At present, there are 22 projects in the Philippine CDM pipeline. According to Carbon Finance Solutions (CaFiS), there are three main types of projects in the Philippine CDM pipeline today: Methane capture, landfill and renewable energy generation projects. Methane capture projects account for 38 percent of the CERs in the Philippines, while landfill projects make up 9 percent. Dominating the CER generation in the Philippine CDM arena are renewable generation projects, which account for more than 50 percent of current Philippine CERs.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has been tasked to take charge of the national approval process for CDM projects in the Philippines as the country's CDM-Designated National Authority (CDM-DNA). Last June 2006, seven CDM projects were given national approval by the CDM-DNA. It issued its first letter of approval to the Northwind Bangui Bay Project early this year.

The CDM scenario in the Philippines is showing much potential but it is not without problems. We have yet to see a Philippine CDM project complete the whole process up to official registration. All the Philippine projects mentioned earlier are either at the validation, national approval or request-for-registration stage. Not a single Philippine CDM project has been officially registered.

The CDM remains an opportunity provider for developing countries such as the Philippines. It opens the carbon markets to developing countries and gives them opportunities to gain technological advancement and additional financial resources through the implementation of CDM project activities.

Contributing to the global goal of reducing GHG levels to mitigate the process of climate change is a most worthy cause.

Language and the law

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

WE COMPLAIN ENDLESSLY ABOUT HOW LAWLESS THE country is. But there are really two sides to this. On one hand, the rich and powerful know what the laws are, and manipulate the legal system to their advantage. On the other hand, you have the poor, who don't know the laws, ending up being victimized by the powerful.

Language seems to aggravate the situation. With English still dominating our legal system, it's no wonder the laws favor the rich.

I thought about these problems of language and the law as I read a copy of a letter from Napoleon Imperial to Sen. Manuel Lapid (Lito Lapid, to most Filipinos). Nap, who is with the education and manpower development division of the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda), was appealing to the senator to push for the use of Filipino, from the legislative processes to trial proceedings.

Model laws

Nap's letter got me thinking. Perhaps one reason the nation is in shambles is that the vast majority of Filipinos have little appreciation of our laws. I intentionally used the word "appreciation" because we have many wonderful laws, so much so that other countries sometimes look to our laws as models. Let me cite a few examples:

The Generics Act of 1989 is still cited in medical journals and consumer magazines worldwide as an example of how governments can promote rational drug use, and bring down drug prices, through the use of generics.

Our National AIDS Prevention Law, passed in 1995, has been hailed by AIDS groups as model legislation with its incisive provisions on prevention, treatment and care. Policy analysts have pointed out that the law, with its strong anti-discrimination clauses and support for a multisectoral National AIDS Council, may have been one reason the prevalence of HIV in the country is low.

During a recent trip to Thailand, I met a woman legislator who told me she had been inspired by one of our laws that penalizes marital rape. She's been working to get a similar law passed there.

Then there's the recent passage of the Juvenile Justice Bill, which prohibits the imprisonment of minors and provides for rehabilitation services. I predict that it will inspire legislators in other countries to pass similar ones.

Rights

The list could go on and on. We do have good laws but they would become even more effective if more people understood them, and used them. There were multi-lingual information campaigns around the Generics Act shortly after it was passed, and that helped to make an impact. Alas, with time, the campaigns dwindled and many provisions of the law are rarely enforced.

With traffic regulations, we see attempts to use local languages for better enforcement. We see more street signs now in Filipino, but they still remain largely ineffective, partly because even in Filipino, the messages are not clear.

Nap Imperial's point is to have new laws translated into and disseminated in Filipino. But I suspect laws in Filipino may be even more obscure than in English, so even more important would be public discussions of these new laws, conducted in local languages and through the mass media. Just listen to the legal assistance programs on radio, and you'll find listeners calling in non-stop, asking, in Filipino, about a wide range of legal issues from late birth registration to inheritance.

I'd like to see these programs going a step further and helping to change the Filipino view of the law. Right now, Filipinos look at laws mainly as prohibitions, exemplified by all the "*bawal*" signs we see on the road. Since the powerful are always getting away with doing what's prohibited, Filipinos end up looking at the "*bawal*" signs and our laws as "suggestions"—things that you shouldn't do, if there's a risk of getting caught.

Our public service programs should do more to emphasize how laws protect people. A "No Parking" sign is there to prevent street congestion. A "Slow" sign may mean the area has many schoolchildren crossing.

We need more discussions, too, about how laws help to assure fairness, to protect rights. A "No Counterflow" sign should be explained not just to prevent traffic gridlocks but to ensure fairness. Why should anyone be allowed to speed forward ahead of all the others who have been patiently waiting?

Language is important again to "interrogate" laws, and the principles behind these laws. I once heard on radio an aggrieved woman complaining, "*Hindi karapat-dapat. Hindi* fair." We need to talk more about fairness, and the law, along lines of what should be.

Grievances

Nap also describes how court proceedings in English put many Filipinos at a disadvantage. One reason is that their poor grasp of English prevents them from following what's going on. But language isn't just a medium, it's a setting as well. When judge and lawyers speak in English, they duplicate the existing power inequities: We, the English speakers, know what's right and you, the speakers of the "vernacular," of the "dialect," are ignorant.

Contrast our court hearings with our barangay justice system, where the protagonists can confront each other in Filipino or the local language, with barangay officials mediating. Again, language sets the stage. Being able to speak, even occasionally curse, in Filipino or Cebuano or Ilocano, allows people to bring out important information to argue a case. Speaking in Filipino, the barangay captain comes through as firm, yet understanding. I've seen a tiny woman barangay captain restrain huge bullies, calm fiery wives, admonish haughty mistresses with two words: "*Makinig ka.*" She wouldn't have been as effective if she said, "Listen."

Our notions of democracy revolve around voting, but I'm less impressed with our elections than by the ways we lobby for or against laws. Politicians' speeches leave me cold, but I'm always impressed with forums where a peasant, or a worker, or a student, is able to explain a law with all the eloquence that can come only with using local languages. Speakers using English fall flat, the laws degenerating into jargon, distant and irrelevant. In Filipino or a local language, the words fly, bodies move, almost musically, as people begin to appreciate a law, and claim it as their own. Now that's citizenship.

Similarly, the use of Filipino in barangay halls allows people to speak their minds. Not surprisingly, the barangay hearings are often resolved without going on to the police station or a court, sometimes in just one afternoon. People can feel justice is done, and that the laws do benefit citizens.

"*Galing!*" I've heard people say after a barangay hearing. And I know they were not just praising the skills of the barangay officials, but also expressing how they felt, a sense that they're recovering from whatever wrong was done. That's justice, brought about by the synergy of language and law.

State-sponsored death penalty

IN ITS REPORT ON THE PHILIPPINE HUMAN rights situation, Amnesty International correctly pointed out that the unabated killing of activists constitutes a pattern of political executions that should be a source of "deep embarrassment" to the Philippine government. In fact, it is not just the over 700 cases of extrajudicial killings and the close to 200 cases of enforced disappearances (data from the human rights alliance Karapatan) which should cause deep embarrassment for Filipinos; it is also a major insult that the Philippines gained membership in the United Nations Human Rights Council despite the Arroyo administration's horrible record of human rights violations.

Our belief that military forces and their agents are responsible for the political killings has been affirmed by a strong evidence in the killing of Pastor Sta. Rosa: a mission order was recovered from one of the army soldiers who attacked him. Clearly, after the repeal of the death penalty law in the Philippines, state-sponsored death penalty continues to be imposed in the country, victimizing those at the forefront of protest activities denouncing fraud, corruption and human rights abuses.

At the expense of human lives, a fraudulent President and her allies are doing everything to stay in power. President Macapagal-Arroyo also continues to push for the passage of the anti-terror bill which has been criticized by activists as another threat to civil liberties. This bill will only legalize the persecution of activists and groups branded as "leftists-terrorists." Meanwhile, the Arroyo-controlled Congress continues to ignore our appeals for the passage of pro-poor bills like the ones seeking legislated wage hike for workers, teachers and other underpaid professionals.

Even as Ms Arroyo's allies are set to junk the impeachment complaints, we have no doubt that she is guilty of the worst impeachable offenses against human rights and international law. Persecution by the government will likely go on as the people continue to pursue other venues to demand accountability of the Arroyo administration. Thus, we deeply appreciate the demand of international church bodies, Amnesty International and other international groups for the Arroyo administration to immediately stop extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances and all forms of human rights violations.

On Aug. 30, the UN-declared International Day of the Disappeared, we ask all concerned Filipinos to join us in prayer and protest rallies against the wave of killings and abductions under the Arroyo administration. And on Sept. 21, marking the day the infamous martial law was imposed, let us also gather in multitude against the undeclared martial law under the Arroyo administration through nationally and internationally coordinated protest against state-sponsored human rights violations.

—AMIE DURAL,
secretary general,
Promotion of Church People's Response,
3/F NCCP Compound, 879 Edsa,
Quezon City 1101

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

Greater menace to society: politicians

I'M A FAN OF JUSTICE ISAGANI Cruz. So I was taken aback by his sweeping tirade against gays and lesbians which, in turn, provoked a retort from Manolo Quezon.

I have gay friends as, I imagine, everybody else does. They may be different from us (come to think of it, who among us isn't different from everybody else? Conversely, who wants to be like everybody else?), but I don't think they, as a distinct group in society, have caused that same society great harm.

(My personal policy regarding other people—gay, straight or whatever—as long as they mind their own business and they let me mind mine, I have no problem with them.)

The greater menace to society are our politicians who lie, cheat and steal. And I'm not talking of just one person. Pundits should instead aim their ire at these banes of society.

Others, like show-biz personalities who stray into politics (who, by the way, are also among Justice Cruz's pet peeves) allow themselves to be used by the more masterful politicians. In exchange for something, of course.

Crooks and scoundrels come from all sectors; it's a mistake to single out a particular segment of society for our misfortunes.

—LEANDRO V. CORONEL

About a hundred readers—and counting—have written the INQUIRER in reaction to Isagani Cruz's columns on LGBTs. The INQUIRER regrets that, for lack of space, it cannot accommodate all their letters. For this reason, the INQUIRER decided to publish those that it deemed most representative of the collective sentiments of the letter-senders. This letter should be the last on the matter.—Ed.

Bulatukan Bridge intact, passable

THIS IS IN REFERENCE TO THE news report "Floods destroy bridge in N. Cotabato" of Edwin Fernandez and Grace Cantal-Albasin. (PDI, 8/7/06) We wish to clarify that Bulatukan Bridge in Makilala, North Cotabato did not collapse. It was Approach "A" (from the Davao City side going to Cotabato City) that was hit by a flash flood which caused the scouring of that section. However, the bridge was left completely intact.

Another point of clarification that we want to make is that the same bridge has been made passable since Aug. 5, 2006 through the collective efforts of the DPWH-Cotabato 1st District Engineering Office and the municipal and provincial government units.

—OSOP L. ALI,
regional director,
Office of the Regional Director,
Department of Public Works
and Highways,
Region 12, Cotabato City

Impeachment complaint is proof of people's protest

I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON the banner story "House kills impeach bid" and on the editorial "Reign of terror." (PDI 8/17/06)

As one of the many citizen-complainants in this year's impeachment complaint against Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, I cannot help but express my indignation over the pro-Arroyo camp's shameless rejection of the impeachment complaint despite the popular clamor for Ms Arroyo's impeachment.

What cadaver are GMA's congressional allies talking about? The impeachment complaint was not a cadaver when it arrived in Congress: it was the most vigorous physical proof of a people fed up with lies, cheating, murders and human rights violations. It became a cadaver only after GMA's minions killed it. But the impeachment complaint's cadaver is nothing compared to the cadavers of unarmed and non-NPA progressive-minded victims piling up as a result of the Arroyo regime's "all-out war against the communists"; the increasing number of hungry and jobless Filipinos now on the verge of being cadavers while those in power enjoy sumptuous meals every day on public money; and the cadaver-like situation of the whole country—in which we're all good as dead—living cadavers, hostages of a Hitler-like regime. We can no longer disagree nor dissent, because dissenters are shot like pigs. We can only talk of all the evil things in whispers, for fear of being salvaged. We can not even stroll anymore without *cedulas*.

It's just too bad that we can no longer protest all the horrific tales that we both hear and experience due to the "reign of terror." What the INQUIRER failed to mention in the witty editorial is the fact that the situation in Nueva Ecija is also the situation in Bulacan, Pampanga and anywhere else in the Philippines. Torture, involuntary disappearance and murder are all common. It's just too bad that unlike in 1896 and in the 1900s, 1940s and the 1970s, we no longer resist tyranny these days.

We have allowed a non-President to remain in Malacañang and we don't care if the impeachment case against her doesn't prosper. Our behavior has reinforced the regime's tyrannical tendencies. I can only share with the INQUIRER the hope that the Filipino people would be roused from their sleep and tear all their *cedulas* as a dramatic prelude to a long walk to freedom and progress.

—DAVID MICHAEL M. SAN JUAN,
dmsanjuanmm3@yahoo.com

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Supreme Court through the Committee on Bids invites prospective bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid as follows:

Name of Project	Approved Budget	Source of Funding
LOT 1		
Printing of 10,000 copies of 2007 Court Calendar	P1,088,000.00	General Appropriations Act – CY 2006
LOT 2		
Printing of 4,000 copies of Cash Books	P1,874,000.00	SC-PHILIA PMC Trust Fund
LOT 3		
Pest and Termite Control Services for the Supreme Court (2006-2007)	P900,000.00	General Appropriations Act – CY 2006
LOT 4		
Janitorial Services for the Supreme Court (2006-2007)	P5,965,000.00	General Appropriations Act – CY 2006

PERIOD OF DELIVERY/CONTRACT:
Lot 1 and lot 2 – Thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of Purchase Order (P.O.)
Lot 3 and lot 4 – One (1) calendar year

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

I. **PRE-BID CONFERENCE**

The Pre-bid conference will be held on the following schedule:

Date : **September 08, 2006, (Friday) for lot 1 and lot 2**
September 15, 2006, (Friday) for lot 3
September 20, 2006, (Wednesday) for lot 4
Venue : **Session Hall, 3rd FLoor Old Building, Supreme Court, Taft Avenue, Manila**
Time : **2:00 p.m. for lot 1, and lot 2**
2:00 p.m. for lot 3
2:00 p.m. for lot 4

II. **SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND OPENING OF BIDS**

On the bidding, the legal requirements for eligibility of prospective bidders must be personally submitted by the duly authorized representative, and the bids will be opened, thereafter, in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives, to be held on the following schedule:

Date : **September 22, 2006, (Friday) for lot 1 and lot 2**
September 29, 2006, (Friday) for lot 3
October-04, 2006, (Wednesday) for lot 4
Venue : **Session Hall, 3rd Floor Old Building, Supreme Court, Taft Avenue, Manila**
Time : **2:00 p.m. for lot 1, and lot 2**
2:00 p.m. for lot 3
2:00 p.m. for lot 4

Prospective bidders must not be related to the head of the procuring entity or any member of the Committee on Bids or its Secretariat either by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree.

Interested bidders may secure eligibility requirements and bid documents from the **Secretariat, Committee on Bids, Property Division, 3rd Floor Annex Building, Supreme Court**, after payment of a non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) each for Lot-1, Lot-2, and Lot-3**, and **One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00)** for **Lot 4**, prior to the conduct of pre-bid conference. For additional information, the bidders may contact the **Secretary, Atty. Ennar R.C. Cabanilla at telefax no. 5251270** or **Ms. Norma C. Josue at tel. no. 5266419.**

The Committee on Bids reserves the right to: 1) reject any or all bids, 2) waive any defects or informalities therein, 3) or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may consider to be most advantageous and beneficial to the government.

August 24, 2006.

(Sgd.) **JOSE P. PEREZ**
Chairperson

By: (Sgd.) **FELIPA B. ANAMA**
Vice-Chairperson

(PDI–August 25 & Sept. 1, 2006)

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY**, Regional Office IV, with its official address at Brgy. Balagtas, Batangas City through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites qualified contractors/service providers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply of trucking/hauling services in the provinces of Batangas, Occidental Mindoro (Mamburao and San Jose), Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque, Palawan and Romblon for October to December 2006 as follows:

Lot No.	ROUTES	Estimated Volume	Approved for the Contract	Minimum No. of Trucks Required
1	Within Batangas Province	354,000	P 4,498,156.00	15
2	Batangas to any point in Laguna	50,000	P 620,200.00	4
3	Batangas to any point in Quezon (Lucena Branch)	110,000	P 1,779,334.10	4
4	Batangas to any point in Infanta	57,000	P 1,350,870.00	3
5	Within Occidental Mindoro (Calintaan, Rizal, Magsaysay and San Jose Areas)	233,000	P 2,275,400.00	10
6	Within MAPSA Areas in Occ. Mindoro (Mamburao, Abra de Ilog, Paluan, Sta. Cruz and Sablayan).	191,036	P 2,226,412.80	5
7	Within Oriental Mindoro Province	29,000	P 331,128.00	2
8	Within Marinduque Province	44,000	P 308,000.00	2
9	Within Palawan Province (Mainland)	60,820	P 770,740.50	2
10	Within Coron Is., Palawan	25,000	P 137,500.00	1
11	Within Romblon Is., Romblon	32,000	P 144,000.00	1
12	Within Tablas Is., Romblon	15,000	P 67,500.00	1
13	Within Sibuyan Is., Romblon	16,000	P 88,000.00	1

The duration of the Contract shall be from the date of the signing of the Contract until Dec. 31, 2006 or upon completion of the delivery of the estimated volume, whichever comes first.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last five (5) years with an amount of at least Fifty Percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the completion of the project. The list of minimum equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Forms. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)

A **successful bidder** is required to submit an Inland Marine Insurance Policy/ Coverage for the trucks to be used in the completion of the project before the issuance of the **Notice of Award**.

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

	ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
1.	Issuance of Bid Documents	August 22 - 31, 2006
2.	Pre-bid Conference	Sept. 01, 2006 at 10:00 am
3.	Submission and Opening of Bids	Sept. 13, 2006 at 10:00 am
4.	Bid Evaluation	Sept. 14-18, 2006
5.	Post - qualification	Sept. 19-22, 2006
6.	Notice of Award	Sept. 26, 2006

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment to the National Food Authority Cashier of a non-refundable fee in the amount indicated below:

LOT NO.	BIDDING FEE
LOT 1	P 4,500.00
LOT 2	P 2,000.00
LOT 3	P 2,000.00
LOT 4	P 2,000.00
LOT 5	P 2,300.00
LOT 6	P 2,300.00
LOT 7	P 2,000.00

LOT NO.	BIDDING FEE
LOT 8	P 2,000.00
LOT 9	P 2,000.00
LOT 10	P 2,000.00
LOT 11	P 2,000.00
LOT 12	P 2,000.00
LOT 13	P 2,000.00

The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY REGION IV assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY REGION IV reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Approved by:
ARD TOMAS R. ESCAREZ
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – August 19 & 25, 2006)

Don't just blame the armchair generals

From page A1

than the real enemies and weakness in logistics and deployment of forces.

In the National Capital Region, for instance, there are 39 small, medium and large police and military facilities operating in a constricted 20-km radius with overlapping functions and responsibilities.

More than 70,000 police and military personnel are encamped in the area, in addition to the 20,000 blue guards. These men, armed and in civilian clothes, often mix with the local population. A lawman can hardly be distinguished from a lawbreaker. A good number of soldiers and policemen are involved in criminal activities.

Before martial law was declared in 1972, police and military personnel were allowed out of the camps only if they had specific mission orders or clearance. Those using vehicles were required to show trip tickets. The idea was to monitor their activities.

When martial law was lifted in 1981, these measures were removed. No one in the succeeding years attempted to restore these institutional safeguards.

Decent lives

"Worse, some officials had the simple notion that soldiers and policemen were trained just to obey orders or to kill and be killed, forgetting that they also have the right to lead decent lives, and are as much affected by the political, social and economic problems of the country," says a young officer.

Indeed, the criticism against the military and police organizations is not only the loss of loyalty to the Constitution, but the failure of leadership to unify and discipline the ranks.

The series of coup attempts belied the principle of civilian supremacy in the Philippine democracy. The ability of the military to overthrow the constitutional government was beyond question as shown in the January 2001 ouster of President Joseph Estrada.

Many internal factors have made the armed services a threat to society. External factors have also contributed to both the military's disunity and the inability of the civilian government to exercise control over the establishment.

The continuing economic decline and rebellions have made the AFP inordinately large and indispensable. Where in normal times the military is a sword kept in the scabbard, it is now perpetually unsheathed because of real and formidable challenges to the state.

More pilots than planes

On Oct. 17, 2003, the Feliciano Fact-Finding Commission issued a report that highlighted causes of unrest in the Armed Forces:

- The Air Force has more generals and pilots than aircraft. Its 240 combat pilots compete for around 60 operational aircraft and at any given time, there are 40 to 50 trainee pilots forced to queue for the use of three trainer aircraft.
- Then Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo made a shocking revelation that the rate of conviction of cases brought to the Sandiganbayan had declined to 6 percent. This means that public officials and military officers charged before the Sandiganbayan have a 94 percent chance of walking away free.
- The AFP has a very strained and low standard of medical and health service for soldiers and their families. There is one doctor per 294 military personnel and one doctor per 1,470 dependents.
- Corruption in the AFP through "conversion," "rigged-bidding" and "washing" which were exposed by the Magdalo Group were confirmed by the Feliciano Commission, which then recommended safeguards.

Intelligence funds

- Retired Commodore Rex Robles, a member of the Feliciano Commission, reported that out of the P1.2-billion confidential and intelligence funds (CIFs) for fiscal year 2003, less than 8 percent (P96 million) went to the AFP, and this amount already included the budget (less than 3 percent of total CIF) for the AFP intelligence service. In comparison, the PNP got almost three times as much at P270 million, while the office of the secretary of the Department of Justice (DOJ) received P95 million or almost the same as the intelligence budget of the entire AFP.
- The DOJ has separate budgets for the National Bureau of Investigation (only P25 million) and the Bureau of Immigration (only P8 million). "It would be superfluous to assert that the AFP bears the brunt of conducting intelligence operations against the major internal threats to national security."
- Drug trafficking has grown into a major threat and police have become part of the problem. The country has evolved from a minor transshipment point into a leading source of prohibited drugs in the region. Kidnapping, white slavery, gambling, smuggling, and even electronic piracy may be demonstrably linked to existence of the drug trade. Police estimates show 70 percent of reported crime to be drug-related, with around 1,400 policemen involved in illegal drug operations.
- There are only 7,560 units of AFP-wide government housing quarters; in other words, the AFP was able to provide housing for a mere 6 percent of its total strength. Here were the other stark details: soldiers living in squatter areas, 15,815; renting or living with relatives, 37,027; or a total of 52,842 homeless personnel.

Davide report

In its official report on the 1989 coup, the commission headed by retired Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. stressed the need for short- and long-term measures to prevent another coup attempt.

"In the final analysis, the guarantee against coups, as well as other aberrant behavior, is the creation of a just, humane, and progressive society, the elements of which are set out in the Constitution," the Davide Commission report said.

The commission set forth recommendations for ensuring the supremacy of civilian authority over the military. The principal prescription was the appointment of civilians to head the Department of National Defense, the National Security Council and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

Finally, the commission made recommendations over the long term that touched on the need for reforms concerning social justice, decentralization, democratic change, patriotism, constitutionalism, and the building of a citizens' army.

To be continued

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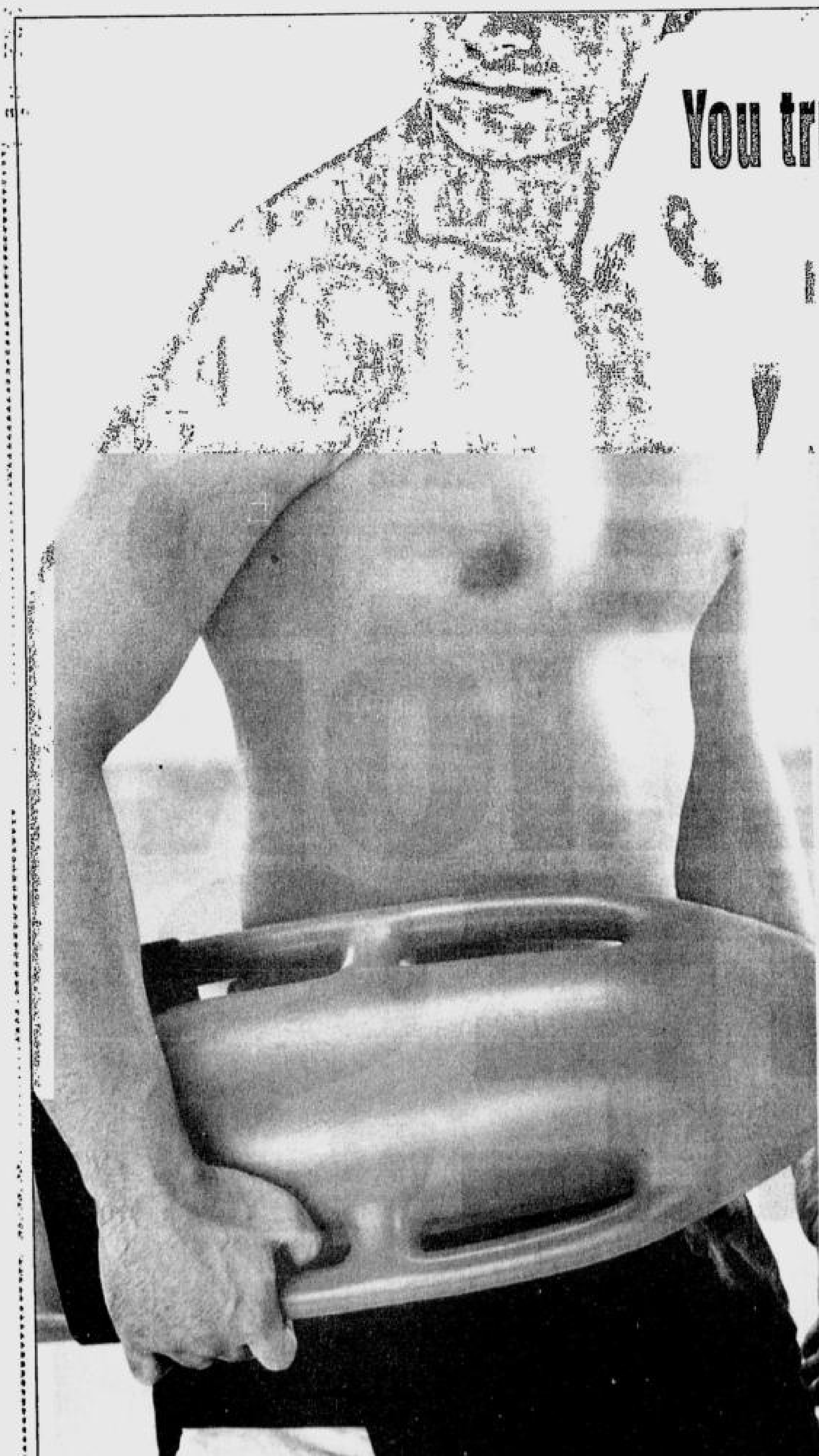

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A16 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2006

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Soldiers catch up with main Sayyaf group, kill 6 members

ZAMBOANGA CITY—GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS caught up with the main group of the Abu Sayyaf led by Khadaffy Janjalani in Patikul, Sulu yesterday, killing six members of the al Qaida-linked terrorist group, the military said.

This was the second day of heavy fighting since the military continued with its deep push this week into Abu Sayyaf territories in Sulu in a bid to flush out the terror group and their foreign allies, including three suspects in the 2000 Bali bombings.

Brig. Gen. Juancho Sabban, commander of the 3rd Marine Brigade, said at least six Abu Sayyaf gunmen were killed in yesterday's encounter in Barangay Kabuntakas while four Marines were wounded.

"We discovered that majority of the ASG we hit were Yakan-speaking bandits from Basilan. We are optimistic that among those 80 bandits was Khadaffy Janjalani," he said.

On Wednesday morning, two Scout Rangers were killed while 17 others were wounded in another clash in the same town.

Wednesday's offensive was the biggest debacle so far on the military's side.

Deputy Southern Command chief Brig. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino said elements of the 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion attacked the camp of Abu Sayyaf leader Radulan Sahiron in Barangay Danag in Patikul town around 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

He said the soldiers, who flew in from Davao City on Tuesday afternoon, were met with fierce gunfire from at least "15-30 Abu Sayyaf bandits" as they were approaching the camp in Mt. Sinumaan.

Dolorfino said the Sulu offensive, which is also aimed at capturing Janjalani and suspected Jemaah Islamiyah militants Joko Pitono alias Dulmatin, Omar Patek and Jandala, could last for several more days.

Already, civilian officials have reported that hundreds of families have been displaced since Oplan Ultimatum was launched in late July.

Armed Forces chief Gen. Hermogenes Esperon said during a recent visit here that the hunt in Sulu for the three Indonesian nationals belonging to the Jemaah Islamiyah and top leaders of the Abu Sayyaf has become more exciting.

"It's becoming more exciting. What was intended for three days could even take longer, but if it will take a bit longer, so be it," Esperon said.

When the Abu Sayyaf, which styled itself as an Islamist group fighting for Moro independence, first came out in the late 1980s, authorities have dismissed it as a ragtag band of criminals trying to project a bigger image.

A SOLDIER wounded in the hunt for Abu Sayyaf members gets a medal award at a hospital in Zamboanga City.
AP

Founded by Abubakar Abdurajak Janjalani, a militant who fought in the Afghan-Russo wars, the Abu Sayyaf—literally father of the sword—engaged in petty crimes such as extortion with Chinese businessmen in Zamboanga City as targets. It also ventured into kidnapping for ransom but its earlier kidnapping activities seldom landed in the news.

The first major terror attack credited to the Abu Sayyaf was the 1991 bombing of the MV Doulous in Zamboanga City.

MV Doulous was a floating library manned by Christian preachers. Two foreigners were killed in that attack.

Then the 1993 kidnappings involving foreigners and the bomb attack at the San Pedro Cathedral in Davao City, which killed seven people, happened.

In April 1995, the Abu Sayyaf's notoriety was cemented with the attack on Ipil in Zamboanga del Sur. At least 53 civilians and soldiers were killed in the attack.

In 1996, then Southern Command chief Brig. Gen. Eduardo Batenga estimated the Abu Sayyaf's remaining strength at over a hundred gunmen following a series of operation against the bandit group.

In 1998, Janjalani was killed during a clash with policemen. Several of his followers were also killed.

Authorities said the group had split into factions and dismissed possibility it could sow fear anew.

In March 2000, the bandit group came out of obscurity when it abducted more than 50 people from a school in Basilan. They also beheaded a Catholic priest, Fr. Rhoel Gallardo. *Julie S. Alipala with reports from Jeoffrey Maitem and Allan A. Nawal, Inquirer Mindanao*

Baguio dads vote to scrap contract on pay parking

BAGUIO CITY—THE CITY council on Wednesday voted to rescind the contract of a private on-street pay parking firm, which caused the suspension of Baguio Mayor Braulio Yaranon.

During a special session on Wednesday, majority of the councilors pushed for the rescission of a 12-year management contract that was awarded to Jadewell Pay Parking Corp. owned by Laguna businessman Rogelio Tan Jr.

Both a regional trial court and the Court of Appeals had prevented the council from proceeding with a rescission in 2002.

But Councilor Edilberto Tenefrancia said a Commission on Audit report justified the government's action because it cited substantial anomalies in the way the contract was enacted and enforced.

Tenefrancia was lead counsel for the government when it sued Jadewell in court three years ago.

The council directed city legal officer Melchor Rabanes to notify Tan of the government's intentions, and to begin legal proceedings for a court-mediated rescission.

The council also wanted to repeal the ordinance that legalized the contract.

Baguio old-timers and business leaders had mounted a people's initiative to void the ordinance. They were in the gallery when the votes were cast.

Norma Tan, Jadewell operations manager, said proceeding with another rescission bid is the city government's right, as long as it grants the firm its due process. *Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

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Miriam asked to invite Singson relatives to probe

Where is BCDA lawyer?

CASANOVA

A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY running the Poro Point seaport yesterday expressed fears that the general counsel of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) may be unable to shed light on alleged pressure for the government to take over the port.

In an e-mail to the INQUIRER, lawyer Brigido Dulay, legal counsel of Poro Point Industrial Corp. (PPIC), said lawyer Arnel Casanova is now out of the country.

The BCDA said Casanova is on study leave at Harvard University.

It was Casanova, Dulay said, who issued a legal opinion saying the PPIC contract to run the port was valid. It was also Casanova, according to Dulay, who revealed pressure from "a very influential person" to reverse the legal opinion in favor of a government takeover of the port.

DAGUPAN CITY—WORKERS were the first casualties of a Malacañang move to shut down the operations of the Poro Point seaport as the port operator called on Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago to summon relatives and associates of Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson to a Senate investigation of the ongoing feud.

Singson, in a visit to the INQUIRER, said he, too, was pressing for an investigation of the controversy.

"I will reveal everything in the investigation," said Singson.

Poro Point Industrial Corp. (PPIC), the port operator, appealed to Santiago to bring to the Senate investigation the former and current officials—former Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) chair Florencio Padernal, current BCDA chair Filadelfo Singson Rojas, Poro Point Management Corp. head Felix Singson Racadio and Directors Emma Lim and Carmencita Itchon.

PPMC is an agency under the BCDA that runs the Poro Point seaport. Lim and Itchon are former staff members of Governor Singson who testified in the impeachment trial of then President Joseph Estrada.

"The presence of these officials in the Senate investigation will help clarify the real issues behind the forcible Poro Point seaport takeover," a PPIC statement quoted lawyer Brigido Dulay, PPIC legal counsel, as saying.

San Fernando City Mayor Mary Jane Ortega said the closure was "bad for business" and at least 2,000 stevedores from the city and La Union province were likely to suffer.

She also said the trucking business was a local one and those dependent on the industry would be dislocated, too.

"Restaurants and bars (in the city) will suffer, too," she said. "I pity us, the locals, who are caught between the power play."

Singson told the INQUIRER during his visit that an investigation would unmask the characters behind what he said was the sweetheart deal to run the port awarded during the Estrada administration.

He said the deal was awarded without public bidding.

PPIC, a joint venture of BCDA and private firm Bulk Handlers Inc. (BHI), said no public bidding was needed because the BCDA was the one who solicited the project.

Vessels have been told to go instead to the Subic Freeport, but another alternative port is the Salomague in Cabugao, Ilocos Sur.

Dulay said PPIC lost P5 million-P7 million during the 17 days that the port operations were disrupted.

He said PPIC was appealing to Senator Santiago to summon BCDA and PPMC officials in the wake of the Aug. 5 takeover of the port by the BCDA and other government agencies.

Narciso Abaya, BCDA president, said he sought the takeover to prevent a disruption of port operations while the Department of Environment and Natural Resources enforced a cease-and-desist order to PPIC for lack of an environmental compliance certificate. *Yolanda Sotelo Fuertes, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

Whale sharks provide show to villagers near Mayon

LEGAZPI CITY—AT LEAST SIX whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*), locally known as butanding, have been seen swimming in the waters off Barangay Bigaa in Legazpi City, facing the Albay Gulf.

Jo Roco, science research specialist of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said that as of 3:56 p.m. yesterday, they had recorded nine sightings and five encounters with the butanding.

He said the biggest sighted butanding measured 7 meters in length and was observed at about 50-100 meters from the shore.

He said they could not yet confirm when the gentle creatures started visiting the area.

"Some fishermen and residents are saying that the butandings have been here for two weeks and others are saying that they have been seeing it for a month now," he said.

"We cannot really say when, but one thing is for sure—that they have been here for quite some time now."

Mayon-related

Roco said Mayon's activities might have something to do with presence of the butanding in this side of the Bicol Peninsula.

"Water sources in Mayon dried up so the water plankton went down with the rivers and end up in Albay Gulf. The butanding feeds on this plankton," he said.

Roco said there had been sightings of butandings before but the attitude of the gentle creatures now were different.

"They don't leave and they really show themselves up," he said of the largest fish in the world.

As if in a fluvial procession, 15 small bancas were waiting to see the butanding near the shore, said Roco.

Anacleto Alzaga, 53, a fisherman for 30 years, said it was not the first time he saw a butanding in the area.

"This is the biggest number and the longest time they stayed in this area," he added.

Almost 200 people of all ages, mostly children, were also in the two-kilometer stretch shoreline.

A banca sent onlookers laughing when its occupants were thrown off and forced to swim back to their boat.

Information drive

Roco, also the public information officer of the Bicol Scuba Divers Foundation Inc., said they would conduct an information dissemination campaign around the village.

"We will meet with the barangay councils to inform and educate them regarding the butandings because their presence might be a big help to them, if ever."

He said the abundance of food might be one of the reasons there are butandings in the area.

"We have observed that the butandings we have seen were at the opening of the river connecting to the sea," he said.

The butanding, which measures from four meters to as long as 12 meters in length, feeds only on plankton and krills and are harmless and "remarkably gentle and docile enough that it is generally safe to swim among them," according to the Albay Tourism Council website. *Jojo Los Baños, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

RFM ZAMORA

VIEWING AREA
Visitors watch Mount Mayon early in the morning at the Lignon Hills in Legazpi City. Government volcanologists have maintained alert level 4 around the volcano, but an eruption is not seen likely in the coming days.

Authorities sending back home Mayon evacuees

LEGAZPI CITY—THE PROVINCIAL Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) started sending back home Mayon evacuees residing beyond the 8-kilometer extended danger zone in two villages in Sto. Domingo, Albay after more than two weeks of stay in temporary shelters.

According to Jukes Nuñez, provincial disaster officer, 446 families, or 1,907 persons, from Barangay San Fernando and 422 families, or 1,906 persons, from Barangay San Isidro in Sto. Domingo town were sent home starting yesterday.

"The PDCC decided to send these villagers back home in consultation with the Phivolcs (Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology). They voluntarily evacuated because of fear but now it is safe for them to go back to their villages," Nuñez said.

He said if the volcanic activity gradually wanes, those living in low-risk areas are the ones who will be allowed to leave the evacuation centers first.

At least 43,725 persons, or 9,346 families, were moved away from 32 villages to 28 evacuation centers, the PDCC said yesterday afternoon.

Volcanologists said lava continued to flow out of the volcano. The Phivolcs said the flow of lava became "more vigorous."

"This sign (intensified lava discharge) is significant because it shows that there is still pressure inside the volcano that intensifies the extrusion of magma," said Eduardo Laguerta, Phivolcs-Bicol's senior science research specialist and resident volcanologist.

Laguerta said the flow of lava and rock fall showed that Mayon's eruption, though mild and quiet, was continuing.

Quakes continued around the area as lava spread to the Bonga Gully. The lava was expected to move to the direction of Miisi and Buyoan in the volcano's southeast sector.

The sulfur dioxide emission rate was still high at 6,238 tons daily as gray and white volcanic plumes were seen drifting northeast yesterday morning.

Laguerta said based on the findings of the instruments installed by the Phivolcs, the slopes of the volcano still appeared to be inflated, although the inflation appeared to be smaller.

Mayon, he said, is still unstable and active.

Volcanologists were still unable to establish a trend or pattern in the behavior of Mayon that could predict its behavior in the succeeding days.

"Mayon's behavior is still erratic. There would be abrupt changes in the volcano's signs. It it still in its eruptive phase and has not yet waned," said Laguerta.

He added that a factor that hampered the monitoring of the volcano was the lack of seismometers that could detect small earthquakes.

"We only have four seismometers. If there were an additional seismometer near the summit it will help monitor the volcanic activity more accurately but it's hard to put one there," he said.

Early this year, two seismometers were stolen by unidentified robbers but one was returned to the Phivolcs. *Ephraim Aguilar, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Feud on bills sweeps aside concerns on landslide

BAGUIO CITY—CUSTODIANS OF two of the summer capital's richest enterprises feuded on Wednesday over the repair bills of a drainage system that would prevent a landslide now threatening a Baguio village.

Runoff water from the seasonal rains threatens to wash out the slopes of a hillside overlooking houses at the Barangay Country Club, which straddles the property lines of the Baguio Country Club (BCC) and the forest reservation of Camp John Hay.

The city government plans to erect a permanent water impounding system there to prevent a disaster. But the source of the runoff water has been the center of dispute between BCC and the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA), which administers Camp John Hay.

Anthony de Leon, BCC general manager, has blamed the John Hay golf course for the water that is ejected from beneath the John Hay grounds out to the village creeks.

He has offered to advance a third of the repair cost, estimated at P6 million, because the erosion also endangers portions of the club's buildings.

Liza Pagano-Calde, vice president of the John Hay Management Corp., said the runoff water is caused by the club's drains because its laundry service is located atop the endangered hill slopes.

In an Aug. 22 letter that was read during the city council session on Wednesday, Calde said BCDA would not share in the repairs because the country club was liable for the potential erosion.

She, however, offered to help relocate some of the families whose houses are in the path of an erosion, said Councilor Pinky Chan-Rondez, who read Calde's letter.

City administrator Peter Fianza told the council that the city engineer's office had found evidence to support Calde's contention. *Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

Vets say disease had killed 60,000 piglets in Batangas

BATANGAS CITY—THE SO-CALLED porcine epidemic diarrhea syndrome (PEDS) has already killed 60,000 piglets in Batangas province since it struck hog farms last June, provincial veterinarian Dr. Rodrigo Bautista said.

The affected areas in Batangas include hog farms of Rosario, Ibaan, Padre Garcia, San Jose and Taysan towns and Lipa City, characterized as the province's agro-industrial areas.

PEDS is an acute diarrheal disease caused by corona virus, affecting pigs of different age groups.

It was discovered in Europe in 1969 and is now widespread in China and European countries.

Adult pigs experience anorexia, lethargy and diarrhea while sucklings exhibit vomiting and watery diarrhea.

Mortality rate is high for sucklings at 100 percent and piglets at 50 percent or greater.

The syndrome earlier struck piglets in Bulacan province last year before the Bureau of Animal Industry positively identified the disease when it reached Batangas in June.

At least 1,008 piglets and head of pigs have already died in Lipa since June.

Bautista disclosed that the disease spread quickly from one town to another.

San Jose and Rosario farms, he said, are no longer contaminated with PEDS, which is now starting to infect Taysan hog farms this month.

Bautista said the airborne infectious disease could have been carried by winds or contaminated objects from affected farms.

According to him, hog raisers were now preventing the spread of the disease.

Piglets were also given electrolyte replacements as their protection for diarrhea and secondary bacterial infection.

Biosecurity measures, which include the quarantine of hog farm personnel, are also considered to prevent the spread of the disease in unaffected farms.

Bautista explained that August is the usual breeding period for pigs, which would be sold in the market by January.

Owners would lose at least P1,000-P1,500 per head, amounting to at least P100,000 for 500 pigs sold due to the disease, he said. *Marlon Alexander Luistro, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

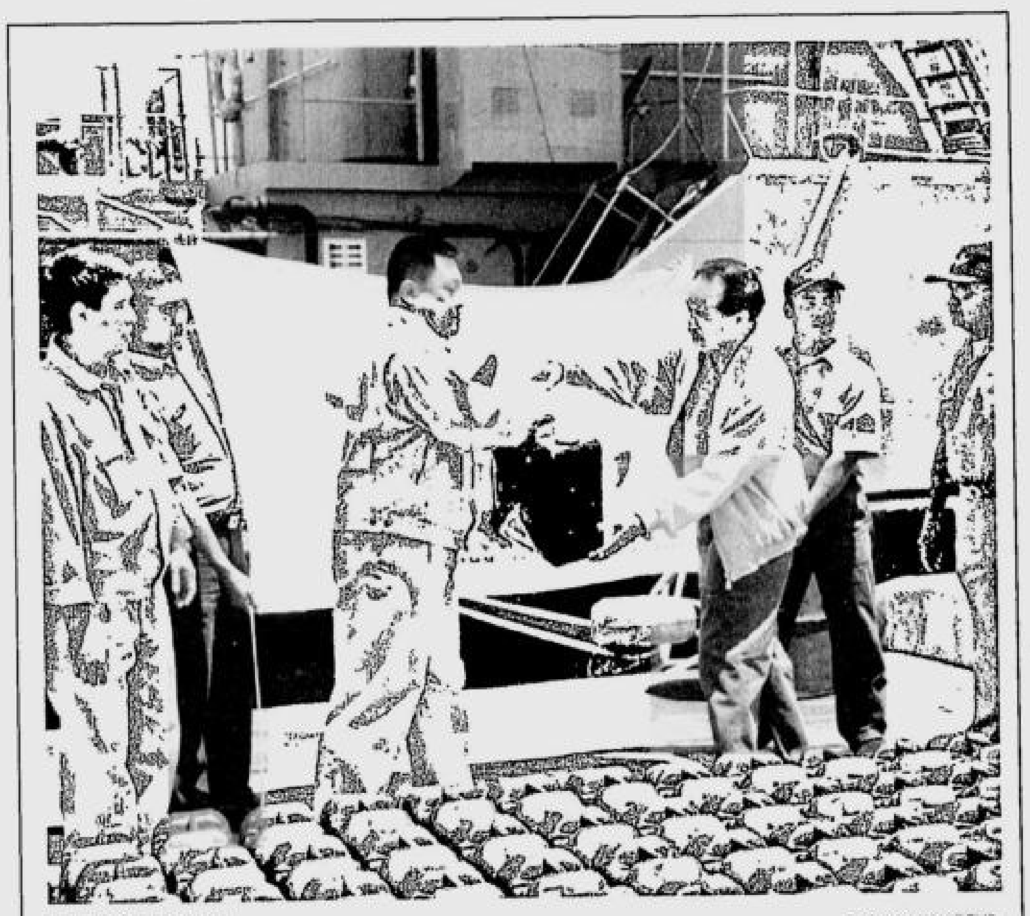

PHOTO FROM DENR

JAPAM HELP
Representatives of Tsuneishi Heavy Industries of Japan hand over donations of 500 gallons of oil dispersant fluid to Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials during a visit in Balamban, Cebu. Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes secured the donations to help clean up the oil spill off Guimaras Island.

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One Voice ready to do battle over people's initiative

ONE VOICE members thumb down the people's initiative to change the Constitution. ROMY HOMILLADA

By Jerome Aning

LAWYERS FOR THE ANTI-CHARTER change citizens group One Voice are girding for a legal battle with Sigaw ng Bayan over the people's initiative petition the latter is poised to file with the Commission on Elections.

At a press conference in Manila yesterday, One Voice said the Comelec would have no choice but to dismiss the petition, following the Supreme Court's 1997 ruling prohibiting the poll body from hearing any such petitions due to the inadequacy of the current law on initiatives.

"The Comelec has no legal standing regarding the issue; it has no choice but to reject the petition unless it chooses to disobey the Supreme Court," said One Voice convenor Ramon Casiple, executive director of the Institute for Political and Electoral Reform.

Lawyer Roberto Cadiz of the legal experts group Libertas said another point One Voice would raise is that a people's initiative could only be used to amend and not revise the Constitution.

He said One Voice lawyers would also scrutinize the signature collection process employed by Sigaw ng Bayan to see if government funds were used.

10-M signatures questioned

With the filing of the petition, One Voice said it and other like-minded groups, as well as the public, would be able to "examine under the prism of established laws, rules and regulations the illogic and illegality of changing the Constitution at this time through a mode the Supreme Court itself had said had no legal basis."

As for the purported 10 million signatures of voters backing Cha-cha, Casiple said One Voice would also question how they were gathered and verified by election officers nationwide.

Aside from the absence of guidelines from the Comelec on the manner of collecting and verifying the signatures in this instance, Casiple said the Comelec rule mandating that the signing be done in front of election officers in official signing stations was violated.

University of the Philippines professor Rene Azurin, another One Voice convenor, said the verification of signatures by election officers should not have been done by simply comparing them with the signatures in the voter rolls.

"Either signature experts should have been called to authenticate the signatures or the signatories called one by one and made to swear that they did sign the petition," Azurin said.

A mere survey

He also said Sigaw ng Bayan collected the signatures on sheets of paper that did not contain the proposed amendments to the Constitution in their entirety.

This made the papers the voters signed a "mere survey," he said.

Sigaw ng Bayan leader Raul Lambino claimed Wednesday the group had gathered more than 10 million signatures nationwide, of which almost seven million had been verified by election officers.

"With these signatures, we are now ready to file our petition before the Commission on Elections," he had told the INQUIRER.

At least 12 percent of registered voters nationwide and three percent of voters in each legislative district must sign the petition for a people's initiative to succeed. A people's initiative would need just five million signatures.

"If it is dismissed we go straight to the Supreme Court (to question its dismissal)," Lambino had said.

4 tons of paper

One Voice member Luis Abad, a student leader at Ateneo de Manila University, said yesterday the group also wanted to find out how Sigaw ng Bayan was able to come up with the logistics to collect 10 million signatures and transport all of them to the Comelec office in Manila.

"Who [brought] it? Were they the same persons who gathered the signatures and thus had personal knowledge of each and every signature contained therein?" he said.

Abad said that with 10 signatures per page on a legal-size sheet of bond paper, that would be one million sheets, equivalent to 2,000 reams of bond paper at 500 sheets per ream.

At two kg per ream, the sheets would weigh at least 4,000 kg or four tons, he said.

If, Abad said, in keeping with usual legal practice, 10 sets or copies of the petition and signatures were prepared and submitted to the Comelec, this means at least 40 tons of paper would be be filed.

With Norman Bordadora

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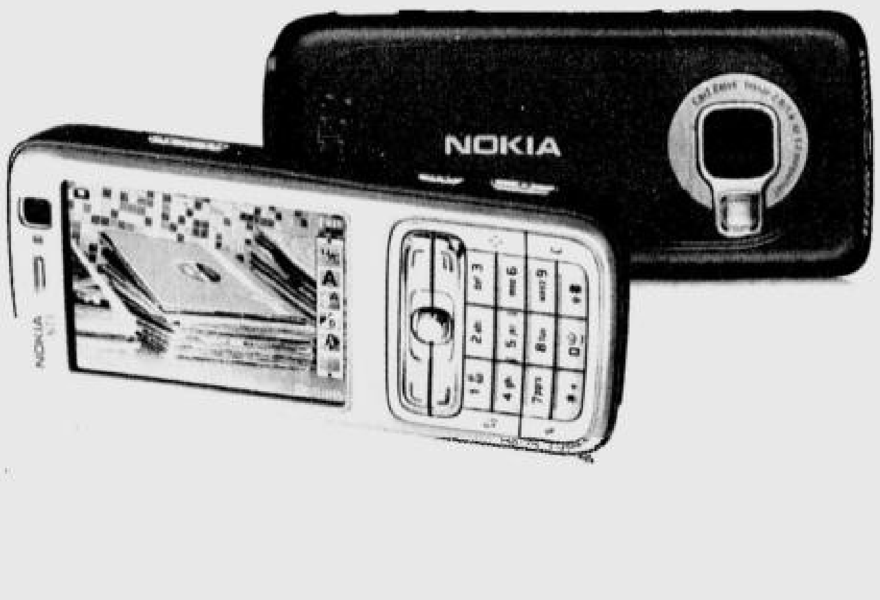

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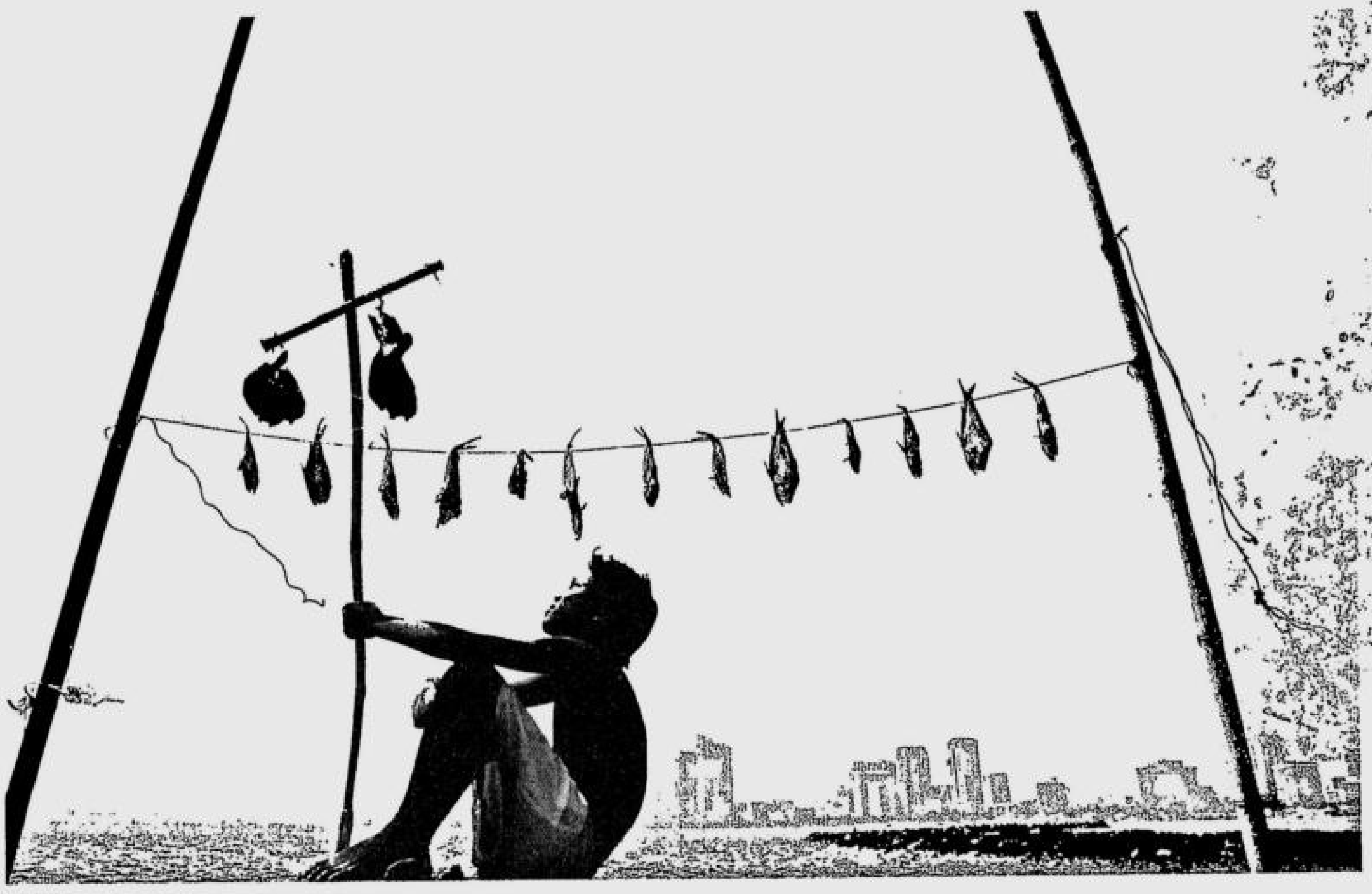
WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Fake designer items worth ₱5M** seized in Binondo /A20
- **Taguig cops rescue 4 women** recruited for jobs in Ilocos /A20
- **Baclaran bridge** closed to motorists /A20



TIGHT WATCH Thirteen-year-old Jeff Casidsid keeps close watch over fish he has hung out to dry, away from prowling cats at the breakwater near the reclamation area by Manila Bay.
EDWIN BACASMAS

Abuse charges to be filed vs Boys Town OIC, volunteers

Suspects barred from working in gov't offices

By Tina G. Santos

CRIMINAL CHARGES ARE SET TO BE filed next week against the officer in charge and five volunteers of the Boys Town Complex in Marikina City for allegedly abusing several wards of the institution.

The charges will be filed by the Manila City government that runs the facility for underprivileged and abandoned youths. Lawyer Melchor Monsod, city legal officer and chair of a special committee that investigated the complaints, identified those who would be charged with sexual and physical abuse as OIC Daniel Cabangangan and volunteers Eric Sepe, Jolly Divinagracia, Christian Guerra, John Soliven and Paul Navarro.

The six were earlier dismissed from the service by Manila Mayor Lito Atienza who said they would be barred from future employment in government offices, especially in institutions serving minors.

"We are preparing the corresponding criminal charges but we need to have the full cooperation of the (Boys Town) wards. We have to make sure they are psychologically prepared," Monsod said. Since the victims are minors, he said the institution would file the complaint on their behalf.

Cabangangan allegedly made sexual advances on two minors. The other suspects, on the other hand, allegedly beat up four minors for violating curfew.

While Monsod believed they had a strong case against Cabangangan, he said they had to check the status of the physical abuse complaint the boys made in the Parang Police Station. The complaint was apparently withdrawn, Monsod said.

He said the victims needed evidence, including medical certificates, to support their allegations.

Monson added that the alleged abuse cases gave them the opportunity to review the operations at Boys Town, including its management style, programs and other related activities.

12-year-old commended for honesty

By Tarra V. Quismundo

PAOLO VILLAFLOR HAS LEARNED THE VALUE of honesty at an early age.

The sixth grader from the Francisco Benitez Elementary School in Makati City knew there was only one thing to do when he found a mobile phone on a bench outside the school around 2:50 p.m. on Aug. 14.

Villaflor immediately handed over the phone to traffic enforcer Oscar Ocenada, who brought the boy to the Sta. Cruz barangay hall so he could personally give the phone to community officials.

The boy's deed prompted Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay to send him a letter of commendation that said: "I hope your peers will emulate the example you have displayed. You belong to our new breed of heroes."

Villaflor told the INQUIRER he was waiting for his mother to pick him up from school since it was raining hard that day. "*Nakita ko po 'yong cell phone. Pagkapulot ko po, sabi ko po hindi ito sa akin kaya dapat maibalik sa may-ari* (I saw the cell phone and after I picked it up, I knew I had to find its owner)."

Barangay officials were able to trace the phone's owner, Mina Alvarez, who turned out to be Villaflor's class adviser.

The teacher did not know how she lost her phone. "I knew I had left it inside a drawer, but when I checked, it was gone. My husband later received a message from my phone saying my phone had been found. I was apprehensive because I didn't know if it was a call from a prankster. I didn't want my husband to reply," said Alvarez, a teacher for 17 years now.

She was relieved when barangay officials returned her phone the next day. Best of all, she learned one of her students found it.

"I am happy I was able to return something that was not mine. Even my classmates and my family were happy about what I did," said Villaflor, the son of a family driver and housewife from Kakarong Street in Barangay Sta. Cruz.

In his letter of commendation sent Tuesday, Binay said: "Let me congratulate you again for your honesty. In these times when we hear a lot of news about cell phone snatching, stealing and other crimes involving this gadget, you have showed a lot of character by returning the mobile phone."

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Fake designer goods seized in Binondo mall raid

By Margaux C. Ortiz

AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU of Investigation (NBI) seized P5 million worth of counterfeit designer items during a raid Wednesday of a popular mall in Binondo, Manila.

NBI Intellectual Property Rights Division (IPRD) agents seized fake Donna Karan New York (DKNY) backpacks and Louis Vuitton bags and coin purses from stalls allegedly owned by Shan Shan Guo and Janeth Marcelo Abra at the 168 Mall.

The NBI agents also confiscated counterfeit items from the stall owners' two warehouses at the fourth floor of Fortune Palace Building, Juan Luna Street, and at the sixth floor of the Pacific Mansion Building, Ilang-Ilang Street, Lavizares Street, both in Binondo, Manila. Charges of unfair competition and trademark infringement are being readied against the pair for allegedly distributing and selling counterfeit products, NBI IPRD chief Jose Justo Yap said.

Special investigator Adjutor Larosa of the NBI IPRD said they confiscated 1,500 counterfeit items from the stalls and two warehouses.

The NBI placed the stores under surveillance and conducted test buys after DKNY and Louis Vuitton representatives complained about brisk sales of counterfeit products in the district.

Cops rescue 4 Taguig City girls in Ilocos Sur bar

By Jocelyn R. Uy

FOUR WOMEN FROM TAGUIG CITY were rescued Wednesday morning at the Mountainside Videoke Bar in Barangay Magsaysay, Sinait, Ilocos Sur after their families asked for help in getting their daughters back.

The women, who were reunited with their families, were rescued after two women, who escaped from the bar last week, sought the assistance of Taguig City officials.

A composite team from the local government and police, led by Councilor Henry Duenas Jr., chair of the City Council Peace and Order Committee, undertook the rescue operation.

Duenas said two men identified only as Jojo and Lloyd promised the victims jobs as waitresses in the videoke bar allegedly owned by a member of an influential family in Ilocos Sur.

The women ended up as guest relations officers and did not receive any salary for their work, the victims told the councilor.

"We couldn't sit around. We were forced to go out on the street to draw customers," one of the victims said.

When they tried to leave, the victims said they were threatened by Froilander Agdeppa, alleged owner of the bar, they told the police.

The police were still trying to locate a 17-year-old girl who was recruited with the four victims. The girl was allegedly transferred to a Mountainside Videoke Bar branch in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte.

"It was a two-hour trip from Ilocos Sur to Ilocos Norte. When we arrived there, the place was already empty. It looked like somebody warned them that we were coming," Duenas said.

The team found a baby Armalite in the videoke bar, which they handed over to the local police for verification purposes.

Eastern Police District's new chief takes over

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE EASTERN POLICE DISTRICT'S new police director assumed office yesterday afternoon in simple ceremonies.

Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman, who replaced Chief Supt. Charlemagne Alejandrino, promised to wage a campaign against street crimes and illegal drugs, as well as improve the police force.

The district consists of the cities of Mandaluyong, Marikina and Pasig, and the town of San Juan, with a combined population of 1,452,000, according to police estimates.

National Capital Region Police Office Director Reynaldo Varilla attended yesterday's ceremonies.

Ticman told the INQUIRER that apart from combating criminality, he would also strive to "improve police-community relations."

He promised to "make the organization more capable" through better training and more facilities.

Ticman, a 1976 graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, was the police district's chief of the directorial staff from August 2001 to January 2002.

He was director of the Rizal Provincial Police from January 1999 to March 2001 and Southern Police District deputy director for operations in 2002.

Alejandrino was district director for more than six months. He replaced in late February Chief Supt. Oscar Valenzuela, who was relieved following the discovery of a compound of shabu restaurants in Pasig City.

Alejandrino will be the deputy director of the Directorate for Plans in Camp Crame.

During his six-month stint, Alejandrino built barracks for the District Special Weapons and Tactics operatives at the annex office on Meralco Avenue and renovated a conference room in the same building.

The district registered a significant drop in crime rate during his term: From 1,182 incidents in January-June 2005 to 814 for the same period in 2006.

But still unresolved is the murder of businessman Leonardo Umale, who was gunned down in broad daylight as he entered his Pearl Plaza Building in Ortigas Center in March.

MTRCB asked to set aside ban on Erap video showing

THE CAMP OF DETAINED PRESIDENT Estrada formally asked the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) to set aside its X-rating that would ban from public exhibition Estrada's biography newsreel, "To Live for the Masses."

In a letter addressed to MTRCB chairperson Consoliza Laguardia, Publikasia, Estrada counsel Rufus Rodriguez maintained the view that the video is a newsreel and is, therefore, exempted from any attempt by the MTRCB to ban its public exhibition.

Rodriguez questioned the MTRCB's position that the controversial newsreel could undermine the faith and confidence of the people in their government and/or duly constituted authority. The truth is the biography was banned because of a perception that it is anti-Gloria Arroyo, Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said the MTRCB's definition of a newsreel violates the Supreme Court's own definition of the term and usurps the authority of the legislature.

"The MTRCB is clearly attempting to mesh its own definition with that of the Supreme Court to justify its decision to bar the airing of the newsreel," Rodriguez stressed.

METROBRIEFS

Baclaran bridge closed

GOING to the airport? Avoid the Baclaran Bridge along the Airport Road to avoid any inconveniences. Repairs on the bridge by the Department of Public Works and Highways have started today. It will last until next week. Supt. Ariel Andrade, chief of the city's traffic management group, said the bridge needed to be rehabilitated since a portion of the bridge was not safe for motorists. He advised motorists bound for the Manila Domestic Road to take Tramo or MIA Road instead of Airport Road. Traffic enforcers would be deployed in the alternate routes to oversee the traffic flow in the area.

Jocelyn R. Uy

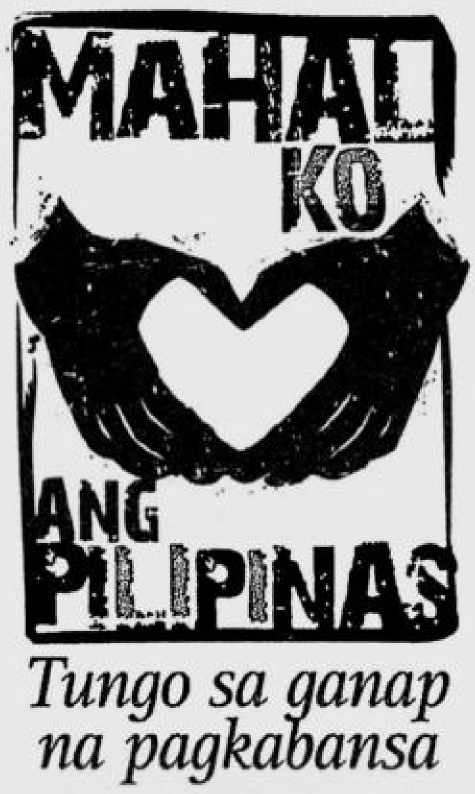
No sweet dreams

AN UNIDENTIFIED gunman shot dead one man and seriously wounded another in Valenzuela City late evening of Wednesday. SPO2 Josephino Canary identified the casualty as Manolito Navarro. The victim was asleep inside his house at Camcam compound, T. Santiago St., Canumay West Valenzuela City when the gunman fired at him. Police said, Navarro was shot several times in the face at close range. Police said the suspect also shot Navarro's friend Gregorio Morales, who just arrived at the victim's house on an errand. Morales, who sustained several gunshot wounds, is now in critical condition at the Valenzuela City General Hospital, police said. The suspect later took off on board a motorcycle. Northern Police District director Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil said checkpoints had been put up in strategic areas in the cities of Caloocan, Malabon, and Valenzuela and the municipality of Navotas to help in the anticrime efforts of the police.

Nancy C. Carvajal

Kalayaan Batch '76 reunion

THE 1976 dormitory-mates of Kalayaan Residence Hall, the University of the Philippines' first coeducational and exclusive housing facility for freshmen, are meeting at 4 p.m. on Oct. 28 at the multipurpose hall of the building they once called home on the UP Diliman campus. "This may be our first and last grand reunion; the best time to relive fond memories of our lives as college freshmen," said Ferdinand "Ding" Aguila, reunion chair, in a message to his fellow dorm residents. A P500 fee will be charged per attendee for dinner. For more details, enroll at the KRH76 e-Group. Contact net-moderator Francisco "Cookie" Pajares Jr. (Cebu) fpj455@yahoo.com, or Ding Aguila (Manila) daaguila@yahoo.com or 09178482499.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More grilling of Israel president over sex claims

JERUSALEM—ISRAELI PRESIdent Moshe Katsav faced a second day of police questioning Thursday over allegations of sexual harassment, the latest blow to an embattled leadership reeling over failures in the Lebanon war.

After a five-hour grilling by police at his Jerusalem residence on Wednesday, the 61-year-old was due to face investigators again, police said.

"He will be questioned again later in the morning," a police spokesperson said.

Police are investigating which, if any, of the allegations against him, Katsav may have committed, ranging from illegal consensual sex to rape, media reported.

Katsav has denied the charges against him and has rejected calls that he resign or step down pending the investigation.

"President Katsav has not committed any offense. He has never sexually harassed anyone. He is ready to cooperate with the investigators and will answer any questions they wish to ask him," Zion Amir, one of his lawyers, told reporters after Wednesday's grilling session.

Katsav in 2002 AP

Should the Iranian-born Katsav lose his job because of the scandal, he would become the second Israeli president to step down from the largely ceremonial post amid scandal.

He is accused by one former senior employee at his office that he coerced her into having sex, hinting she would lose her job otherwise. She was reported to have passed a lie-detector test.

Two other employees of the presidency have also filed complaints against Katsav, the Haaretz daily reported.

The case allegedly came to light when a woman tried to blackmail Katsav for money and a job, threatening to file sexual harassment charges, at which point the president alerted Attorney General Menachem Mazuz.

Earlier this week, police searched Katsav's home and office, confiscating computers and documents in what is fast becoming the biggest in a series of sexual and financial scandals compromising senior Israeli state figures.

Although the probe is expected to take several more months, MPs have already begun to demand that the former transport and tourism minister step down.

A simple request by 20 MPs could see him summoned before a parliamentary commission where a three-quarters majority could lead to a hearing before the full parliament. A vote by 90 of the 120 MPs could see him forced to resign.

Scandal forced Katsav's predecessor, the late Ezer Weizman, to resign after revelations that he received around $450,000 as "gifts" from French millionaire Edouard Saroussi in the 1980s, when Weizman was an MP and minister. *AFP*

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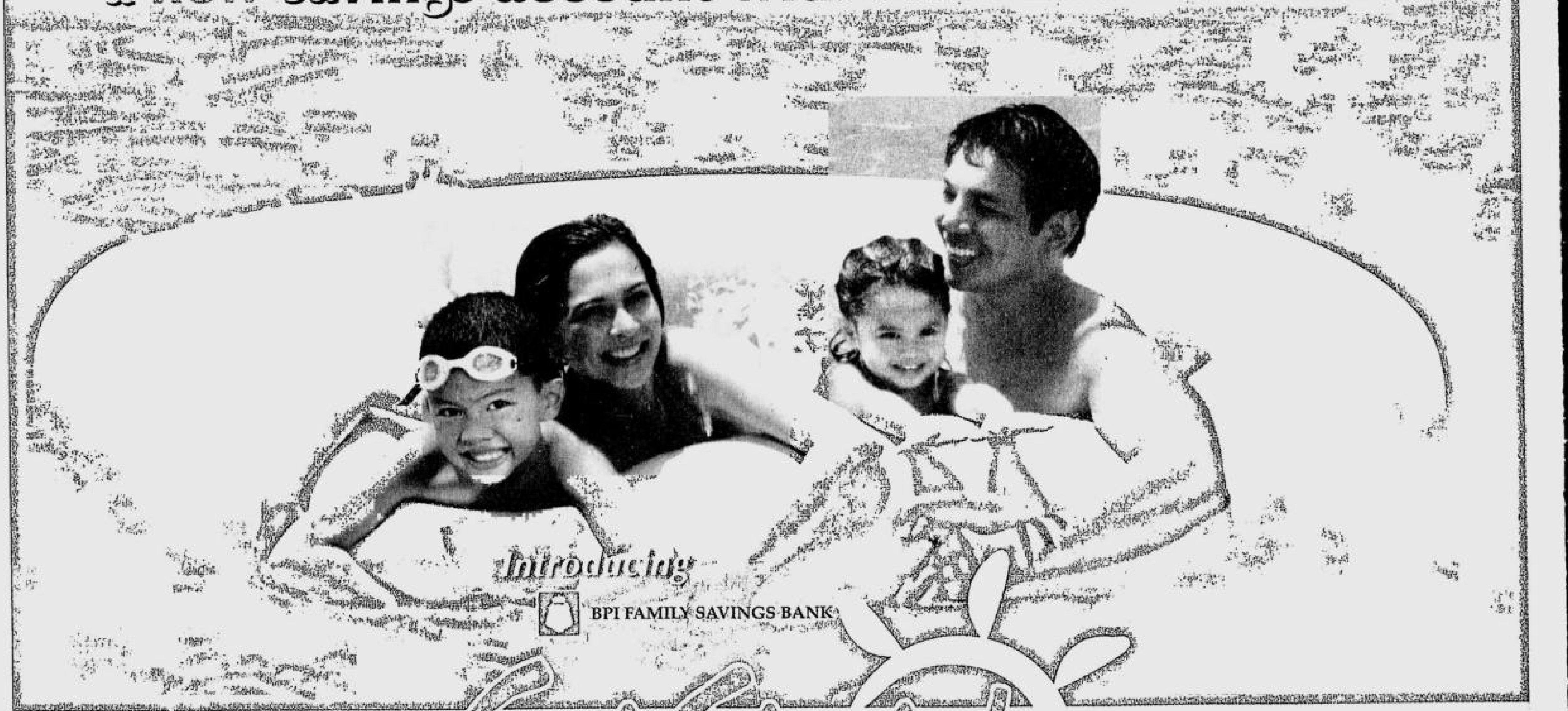

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AFP

Katsav in 2002 AP

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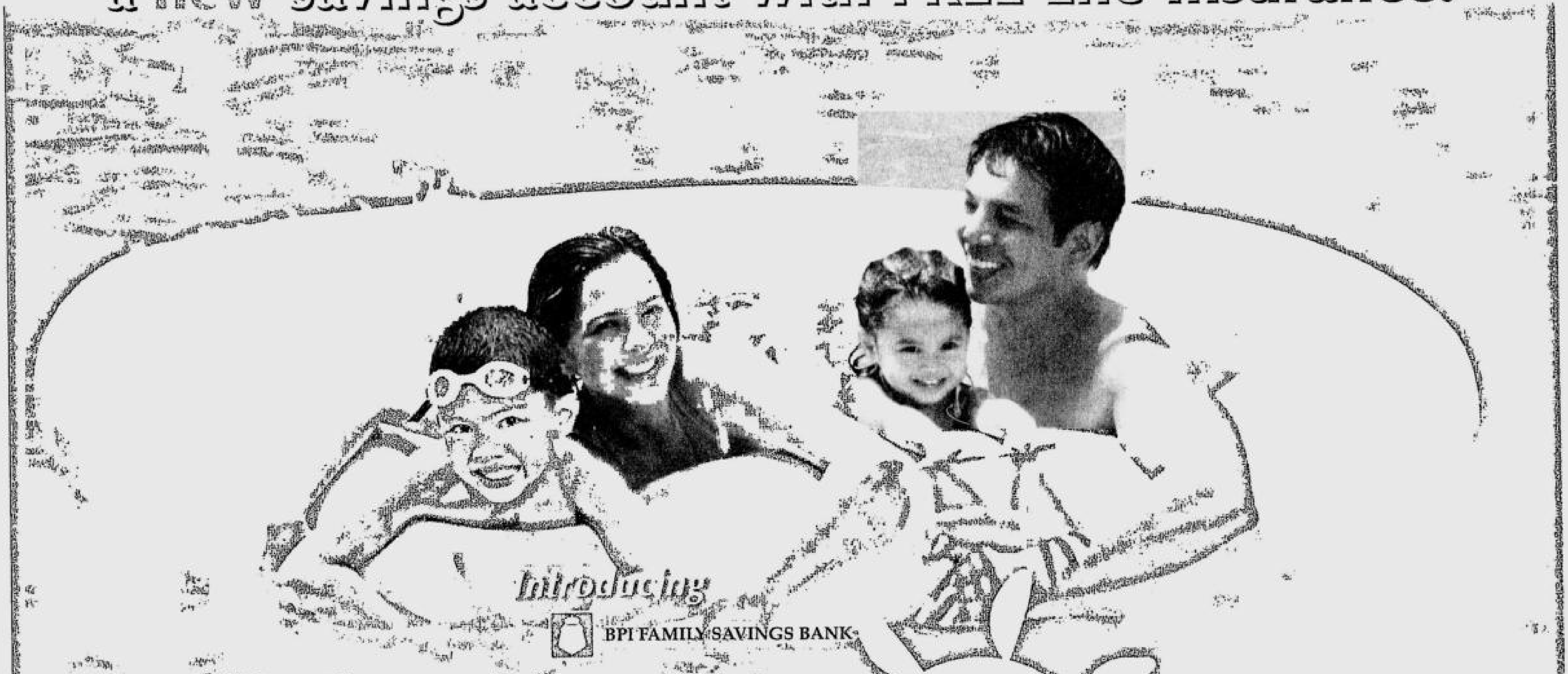

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RETAKE OF PRECEDING FRAME

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

US Congress slams faulty intel on Iran

Report notes 'significant gaps' in intelligence community's knowledge of Iran

WASHINGTON—THE US INTELLIGENCE community is ill-prepared to assess Iran's nuclear weapons capabilities and its intentions for developing weapons of mass destruction, a congressional report said on Wednesday.

Noting "significant gaps in our knowledge and understanding of the various areas of concern about Iran," the House Intelligence Committee staff report questioned whether the United States could even effectively engage in talks with Tehran on ways to diffuse tensions.

The Bush administration said it was handling the problem.

"The Office of the Director of National Intelligence is already taking steps along the lines the committee has recommended," said a spokesperson, reading from a statement.

Iran said on Tuesday that discussions could begin immediately on a package offered in June by the United States and its allies aimed at discouraging Iran's suspected nuclear weapons program. Previous such calls for dialogue have been seen by the West as a stalling tactic.

The major powers made the offer after Iran last December said it had resumed efforts to enrich uranium in defiance of international community.

The congressional report said there "is a great deal about Iran that we do not know" and warned that "policymakers will need high-quality intelligence to assess Iranian intentions to prepare for any new round of negotiations." After the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, which Washington said was aimed at rooting out weapons of mass destruction, huge gaps in America's intelligence-gathering capability were exposed. No such weapons were found and US troops are now bogged down in an extended conflict.

The House panel's report warned of similar inadequacies in the quality of US intelligence on Iraq's neighbor Iran.

"A special concern is major gaps in our knowledge of Iranian nuclear, biological, and chemical programs," it said.

"Iran is a serious security threat on which the United States needs better intelligence," the report said, citing the need for more thorough and timely analysis of political, economic and other developments in Iran and improved coordination and information-sharing among US intelligence agencies.

More Persian-speaking staffers in intelligence agencies and stronger counter-intelligence efforts also were recommended. *Reuters*

Bomb meant for Thaksin defused

THAKSIN AFP

BANGKOK, THAILAND—Police explosive experts Thursday defused a bomb hidden in a car near the residence of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and charged an army lieutenant in an alleged plot against the Thai leader, police and officials said.

Thaksin said he knew who was behind the plot but that he wouldn't name the masterminds publicly, and he fired a military general who was deputy head of a key intelligence agency and who police said employed the suspect as his driver.

Lt. Thawatchai Klinchana, an officer with the Internal Operations Security Command, was charged with illegal possession of an explosive device, police Lt. Gen. Montree Jamroon told a press conference. He said more charges would be slapped on Thawatchai as the investigation continued.

Col. Kosol Ngampramuan, chief of the bomb squad, said that a 22-kilogram bomb and 10 sticks of dynamite were found in the car belonging to Thawatchai who was seized after fleeing from the vehicle. The explosives were defused and the vehicle was towed to a safe location.

Police said the vehicle was driven back and forth near Thaksin's residence and a security guard for the prime minister urged police to chase and stop it.

Interior Minister Kongsak Wantana said on Tuesday that he had intelligence about a plot to harm the prime minister, who has been the target of peaceful protests since late last year. He has been accused of corruption and abuse of power.

The confrontation has resulted in an ongoing political impasse, bitter divisions in Thai society and legal entanglements. An October election, some analysts say, may put the country back on course.

"I learned about the plot to harm me and my family two weeks ago. My family and I are being more cautious for the time being," Thaksin told reporters.

"I know the people who are behind the plot but I cannot say who they are. It is the duty of investigators to find out," he said.

Government spokesperson Surapong Suebwonglee said Thaksin fired Gen. Pallop Pinmanee, deputy chief of the Internal Security Operations Command, because Thawatchai had served under him. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Bodies recovered from Russia plane crash

SUKHA BALKA, UKRAINE—Rescue teams recovered all 170 bodies on Wednesday from the wreckage of a Russian airliner that crashed in Ukraine after flying into a severe thunderstorm. Accident investigators also retrieved the plane's flight recorders, known as black boxes, and began trying to work out exactly what caused the three-engine Tu-154 to crash on Tuesday. Distraught relatives, some barely able to stand, were flown to the crash site from St. Petersburg, the intended destination of the plane that crashed. It was packed with holiday-makers, including 45 children under 12, returning home from the Black Sea resort of Anapa. There were no survivors. The aircraft, operated by one of Russia's largest carriers, Pulkovo Airlines, exploded in a ball of fire when it hit the ground. Officials initially said flight 612 was probably hit by lightning, but investigators warned against drawing premature conclusions. *Reuters*

Syria threatens to close Lebanon border

BEIRUT—Syria has threatened to close its border with Lebanon if UN peacekeepers are stationed there, further complicating the struggle by world powers to agree on the makeup and role of an international force to police a fragile ceasefire. The warning came as EU diplomats met in Brussels Wednesday to prepare for a meeting Friday of foreign ministers, which will be attended by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, to try to hammer out who will come on board. "They will close the frontier for all traffic (if) the UN troops will be deployed" along the border, Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja told reporters following talks in Helsinki with Syrian counterpart Walid Muallem. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad also warned that deploying foreign troops along the border as envisioned under the UN resolution that led to the Aug. 14 ceasefire would be a "hostile" act against his country. *AFP*

US firm makes 'ethical' embryo stem cells

WASHINGTON—A Massachusetts company said on Wednesday it had developed a way to make human embryonic stem cells without harming the original embryo, a finding it said could dispel ethical objections to promising medical research using such cells. "It is possible to generate stem cells without destroying the embryo and without destroying its potential for life," said Dr. Robert Lanza, chief scientist at Advanced Cell Technology in Massachusetts. US President George W. Bush last month vetoed an expansion of federal funding for embryonic stem-cell research, saying that US taxpayers who object to such research should not have to pay for it. Opponents have a range of objections which include a distaste for manipulating or destroying what they see as a potential human life. *Reuters*

Singapore to ease immigration

SINGAPORE—Singapore plans to ease immigration rules in an effort to offset a population shortage which officials have warned could threaten the country's long-term survival if not reversed, the government said. Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng previewed the upcoming changes, saying the manpower ministry was expected to announce changes in the rules for employment visas, allowing holders to switch jobs and to remain in Singapore once their work contracts ended. Currently, employment visas are canceled and foreign workers must leave Singapore at the end of their contracts. Wong said the home affairs ministry would also review criteria allowing eligible foreigners to stay longer than six months while looking for work. *AFP*

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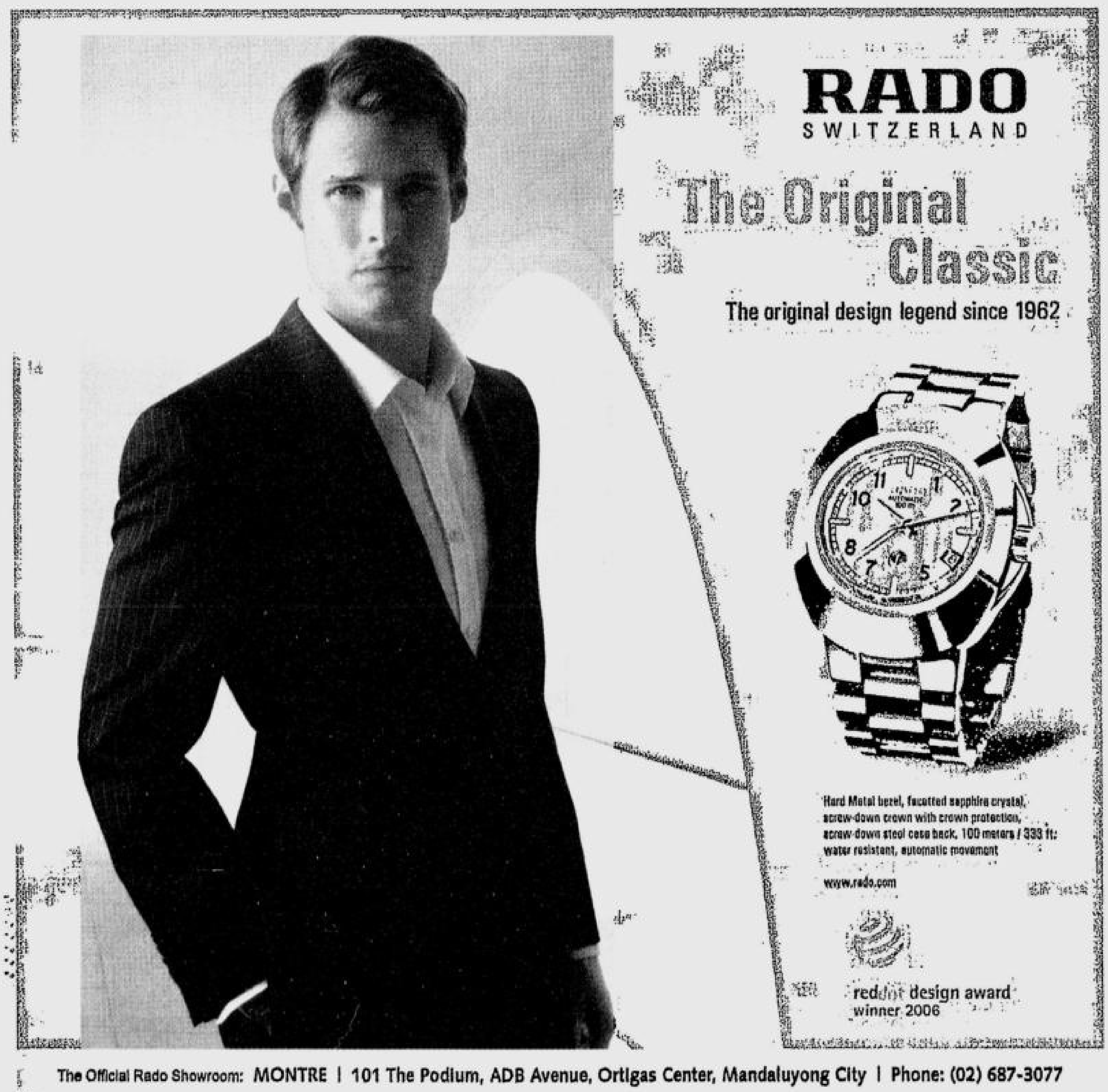

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WHAT'S INSIDE

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Pagunsan 2 shots off Brunei lead with 66/A26

Warriors roar past Bulldogs; Tigers prevail

FAR Eastern's Jeffrei Chan drives past UST's Allan Evangelista. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE East Warriors crushed the National Bulldogs, 76-57, yesterday to secure the second Final Four slot in the UAAP men's basketball tournament at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

"We played bad at the start, but we limited NU to 10 points in the third quarter," said UE coach Dindo Pumaren. "We played good defense and that's when we started to make a run."

Bonbon Custodio and Mark Borboran logged in 13 points apiece to pace a balanced attack by the Warriors, who improved to 7-2.

A semifinal stint, though, wasn't enough for Pumaren. "We're still after the number one spot," he said.

The Warriors also got some help from the Santo Tomas Tigers, who bucked the absence of key players to slip past the Far Eastern Tamaraws, 77-75.

Although the defending champion Tamaraws remained in the running for a Final Four slot at 4-6, they dropped out of contention for the twice-to-beat advantage.

The unbeaten Ateneo Eagles earlier claimed the first semifinal incentive after rolling to their eight straight win.

With the Tigers jumping to third place at 4-5, coach Pido Jarencio said their semifinal hopes seemed within reach.

"Our target now is the Final Four," he said.

For the fourth time this season, the Tigers missed the services of top gunner Jojo Duncil and Jun Cortez, who had typhoid fever.

GAMES TOMORROW
(Ninoy Aquino Stadium)
10 a.m.—UP vs UE (Jrs)
11:30 a.m.—Adamson vs NU (Jrs)
2 p.m.—FEU vs Ateneo (Jrs)
4 p.m.—Adamson vs UP (Srs)

The scores:

First Game (Srs)

UE 76—Custodio 13, Borboran 13, Arellano 10, Gregorio 9, Briones 7, Labagala 6, Bandaying 5, Thiele 4, Llagas 4, Reyes 2, Canizares 2, Espiritu 1, Lingganay 0, Martinez 0.

NU 57—Fernandez 17, Catamora 9, Asoro 8, Salvado 5, Jahnke 4, Flor 4, Malcontento 3, Lingao-Lingao 3, Malagueno 2, Dela Cruz 2, Luy 0, Garcia 0, Cooper 0.

Quarters: 20-18, 40-34, 57-44, 76-57

Second Game (Srs)

UST 77—Espiritu 31, Taylor 13, Cruz 11, Ababou 7, Evangelista 6, Canlas 4, Dizon 2, Cuan 2, Allera 1, Gile 0.

FEU 75—Chan 21, Villanueva 17, Gerila 11, Fernandez 10, Baracael 7, Mangahas 6, Villanueva 2, Gonzales 1, Vinluan 0, Dela Cruz 0, Barcellano 0, Adolfo 0.

Quarters: 22-21, 42-39, 62-56, 77-75

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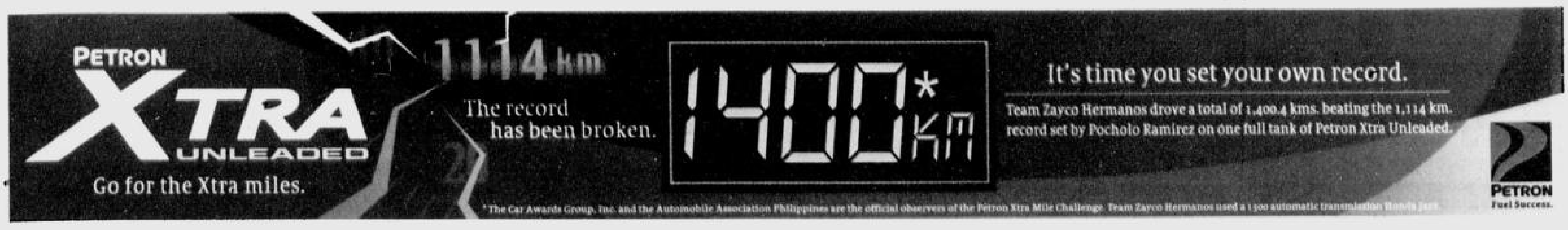

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1114 km
The record has been broken.
1400* KM
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Team Zayco Hermanos drove a total of 1,400.4 kms. beating the 1,114 km. record set by Pocholo Ramirez on one full tank of Petron Xtra Unleaded.
PETRON Fuel Success.
*The Car Awards Group, Inc. and the Automobile Association Philippines are the official observers of the Petron Xtra Mile Challenge. Team Zayco Hermanos used a 1300 automatic transmission Honda Jazz.

RP five shades Ginebra

Nationals gain Brunei semis with 4th straight win

By June Navarro

BRUNEI—MARK CAGUIOA IS WELL-KNOWN for making desperation shots.

Showing its high respect for Caguioa, the San Miguel-RP Team put up a tight defense against the Barangay Ginebra star in the dying seconds to escape with a 74-73 win Wednesday night and remain unbeaten in the 6th Shell Rimula Brunei Cup here.

Caguioa, the PBA's scoring king last season, missed the potential game-clinching floater with three seconds left as Dennis Miranda, Danny Seigle and Dondon Hontiveros swarmed all over him.

With its fourth straight win, the defending champion SMB-RP Team secured the No. 1 seeding in the crossover semifinals, even if the Filipinos drop their final elimination assignment against the Jordan All-Stars tonight.

"Ginebra worked harder and I think that team deserved to win this game than we do," said RP head coach Chot Reyes. "We struggled in our games because there's no weak team in this tournament. But at least we're No. 1."

The Nationals could have avoided the nail-biting finish had Asi Taulava made his free throws with 12 ticks left. Sunday Salvacion grabbed the rebound after Taulava's second miss and passed it to Caguioa, who nearly turned the game around.

Caguioa, who exploded for 46 points against the SK Knights of South Korea, had 11 of his 24 points in the third but was limited to a pair of free throws during the most crucial stretch.

"At least, we gave them a good fight," said Barangay Ginebra coach Jong Uichico after the Kings absorbed their second defeat after debuting against the Jordan All-Stars with aplomb.

When the Nationals finally put the cuffs on Caguioa, Mark Macapagal started nailing his three-pointers while Menk asserted himself in the paint to push the Kings within 73-74.

The scores:

SMB-RP 74—Hontiveros 16, Taulava 15, Seigle 13, De Ocampo 7, Allado 6, Racela 6, Ritualo 6, Canaleta 3, Telan 2, Gonzales 0, Miranda 0, Pena 0.

GINEBRA 73—Caguioa 24, Menk 18, Macapagal 10, Mamaril 8, Salvacion 5, Adducul 4, Reavis 2, Seigle 2, Coronel 0, Echavez 0, Salangsang 0.

Quarters: 20-23, 42-34, 62-52, 74-73

MISSES: Asi Taulava RYAN LIM

Ban to cost rider Zarate dearly, says Philracom

By Musong R. Castillo

"NOT THAT LIGHT."

Philippine Racing Commission chair Florencio Fianza stressed this yesterday, adding that the one-year ban he slapped on erring jockey Jeffryl T. Zarate, if taken "in its totality," is a heavy punishment.

"If you look at it in its totality, he (Zarate) stands to lose millions of pesos for not being able to ride for one year," Fianza, a retired police general, told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview. "We caught (someone) for the first time, so let's treat it at that."

Zarate was sacked after being found guilty of dropping handicap weight plates aboard Slatkis in a big race last Sunday. Prominent horse owners, however, complained that the penalty "seemed light."

A source privy to figures earned by topnotch jockeys said that Zarate earns nearly P100,000 a week. Adding this up, the former Class A rider, who was also suspended for one year last year for deliberately losing a race, could lose more than P4 million a year.

Fianza also clarified that the ban prohibits Zarate from even entering race venues during racing days, adding that the penalty could still be upgraded if the Philracom gathers more damning evidence in its ongoing investigation.

Active Mid-Am golf tees off at Malarayat

LIPA CITY—JINGY TUAZON OPENS defense of his Active Group Mid-Am title starting today against a crack field that includes former national champions at the Malipunyo and Makulot nines of the Mt. Malarayat course here.

The jolly Tuazon is given a fair chance to repeat despite the presence of World Amateur veteran Dave Hernandez and former RP Amateur and RP Seniors titlists Iggy Clevecilla and Francis Gaston.

"This tournament promises to be even more exciting," said Malarayat chair Arturo Turalba, who will host cocktails for the participants after today's first 18 holes of the event sponsored by the Active Group and Pacsports.

In the biggest win of his career, Tuazon turned back Tommy Manotoc in a gripping final round last year after shooting a two-under 70.

Abe Rosal and Raymund Sangil are also entered in the Open division.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Center for Health Development – Zamboanga Peninsula
MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur

Section I. INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL, through the GAA 2006 intends to apply the sum of ELEVEN MILLION PESOS ONLY (P11,000,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Procurement of Drugs and Medicines, various Medical and Surgical, Dental and Laboratory Supplies. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.

The MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL now invites Bids, from eligible Bidders for the procurement of Drugs and Medicines, various Medical and Surgical Supplies, various Dental and Laboratory Supplies. Delivery of the GOODS is required by a 30-day period or the expected contract duration. The description of an eligible Bidder contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of the Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens and organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138. Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL and inspect the bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of THREE THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P3,000.00). The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on September 8, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at MRH Conference Hall, Poblacion Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur.

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before September 18, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of Surety Bond except GSIS Bidders Bond and in the amount of TWO MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P2,200,000.00) for CATEGORY I; or ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P1,200,000.00) for CATEGORY II or THREE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P3,300,000.00) for both CATEGORY I AND II. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on September 19, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at MRH Conference Hall, Poblacion Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend below.

The MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL
MRS. VILMA B. DOCTOR
BAC Vice-Chairman
Poblacion Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur
0921-5606181

(Sgd.) DANILO D. ALFARO, M.D.
BAC Chairman

(PDI – Aug. 25 & Sept. 1, 2006)

Knights eye second victory vs Dolphins

STANDINGS	W	L
*San Beda	11	1
* Letran	10	2
*PCU	8	4
* Mapua	7	5
SSC	4	8
Perpetual	4	8
Jose Rizal	3	9
St. Benilde	1	11

* semifinalist

GAMES TODAY (*Ninoy Aquino Stadium*)
2 p.m.—St. Benilde vs. Perpetual Help (Jrs/Srs)
4 p.m.—PCU vs. Letran (Jrs/Srs)

DEFENDING CHAMPion Letran again tries to nail down the twice-to-beat incentive today when the Knights tackle the Philippine Christian U Dolphins in the NCAA seniors basketball tournament at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Derailed by the Mapua Cardinals last Wednesday, the second-running Knights (10-2) hope to finally secure the incentive reserved for the top two Final Four qualifiers with another victory over the Dolphins (8-4) in their 4 p.m. match.

San Beda earlier clinched the first incentive after downing PCU also Wednesday, 73-64, to raise the tournament's leading record to 11-1.

The Dolphins, who lost to the Knights, 62-54, in the first round, have to win their last two games and hope Letran drops its last two to forge a playoff for the No. 2 slot.

Perpetual Help and St. Benilde clash in a no-bearing game at 2 p.m.

Meanwhile, Mapua coach Horacio Lim said he might question the eligibility of player Jeff Pria, who reportedly has not completed a one-year residency with JRU.

"There is a need to clear things up and look into the issue," Lim said.

Marc Anthony Reyes

PSC's Ramirez pins golden hopes on four Asiad events

By Marc Anthony Reyes

WUSHU, TAEKWONDO, BILLIARDS and bowling will serve as the bright spots of the Philippine campaign in the coming Doha Asian Games in Qatar.

Philippine Sports Commission and Asiad chief of mission William Ramirez yesterday predicted that at least three golds would come from the four sports in the quadrennial event slated Dec. 1-15.

Ramirez noted that billiards (Django Bustamante and Nikoy Lining) and bowling (Paeng Nepomuceno and RJ Bautista) accounted for two of the three golds won during the 2002 Busan Asiad. The third victory came in equestrian through Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski.

He added that wushu and taekwondo are consistent gold-medal producers during the Southeast Asian Games.

"But you can't just predict how many golds we'll win because we have this ability to rise to the occasion and give it our best in the 11th hour, like what we did in the 2005 SEA Games," said Ramirez, who is set to fly to Doha this weekend to check on the Asiad preparations.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Friday, August 25, 2006

Ang kwento ng panget mas pinaganda!
Letty la mas fea
iDOL ABC
mon-sun 6pm
Premieres Aug. 18
ABC

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5	Nickelodeon				Legend Of Shaolin Kung Fu	Mon Colle Night	Sentro Headlines	Letty La Mas Fea		Doble Cara		Philippine Idol Exclusive	Global Shockers		Real Stories		Big News	TNA	Philippine Idol Exclusive
ABS-CBN 2		Kapamilya Cinema			Pasion de Amor	Yakitate Japan/ Yu-Gi-Oh GX	Calla Lily	Pangako Sa 'Yo	TV Patrol World		Kapamilya Deal Or No Deal	Bituing Walang Ningning		Sa Piling Mo	Maalaala Mo Kaya			Bandila	Mirada De Mujer
AXN		Streetfighter				Fear Factor (Season VI)		Alias (Season IV)		The Amazing Race: Family Edition		Ultimate Guinness World Records	E Buzz	Spider-Man					Bad Boys II
Cartoon Network	Pixie & Dixie/ My Little Pony	All New Popeye Show	I am Weasel	Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	Winx Club	Xiaolin Showdown	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	The Simpsons	Samurai Jack/ Sayonara Samurai Jack	PokeMon	Dice	Gundam Seed Destiny/ Shaman King	The Simpsons/ Courage The Cowardly Dog	Teen Titans/ The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Justice League Unlimited/ The Simpsons	The Batman/ Aqua Teen Hunger Force/ Sealab 2021	X-Men Evolution/ Gundam Seed	Static Shock/ Shaman King
Cinema One		Ibulong Mo Sa Diyos				My Other Woman				Mano Po 3: My Love				Minsan Pa Kahit Konting Pagtingin 2				Ang Anak Ni Brocka	
Cinemax		Mister Roberts (3:05 PM)				Commandments			The Ticket			Scam			Psycho IV: The Beginning			Don't Talk To Strangers	
CNN		Business International		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		Business International	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia	World News Asia	Your World Today			
Crime/Suspense		The Grid		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Profiler		Forensic Files	Extreme Evidence	Law & Order		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Dominick Dunne's Power, Privilege & Justice		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Prison Break	
Discovery Channel	Connect	The Greatest Ever																	
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Ali Attack/Un-talkative Bunny	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	Lilo & Stitch	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Emperor's New School	America's Funniest Home Video	Buzz on Maggie	Totally Spies	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN						World Snooker Tour: World Champs '06						Evian Masters Highlights		Sportscenter Asia	Major League Baseball Thursday				
ETC		Veronica Mars 2		Change of Heart	Elimidate	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	The Tyra Banks Show		Everwood 2		American Dreams 2		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
ETC 2nd Avenue		Starting Over		The Maury Povich Show		The Jerry Springer Show		Dr. Phil		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition	The Ellen (Degeneres) Show		Wheel Of Fortune	Jeopardy	Trading Spouses		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition
EWTN	The Good Code: The Natural Law	Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus	The Donut Man	Angel Force	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Gallery	Backstage	The Gospel Of Life In Health	Defending Life	Life on The Rock Encore		Daily Mass		Holy Land Rosary/ Angelus	Parable	EWTN Bookmark	St. Thomas Aquinas In Today's World	Fr. John Corapi	
Fox News		On The Record With Greta Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Your World With Neil Cavuto		Fox & Friends						Fox News Live					
GMA 7	Asawin Mo Man Ang Lahat	Now and Forever (3:15 PM)	Ang Pagbabago (3:45 PM)		Saiyuki	Dragonball Z	Jewel In The Palace	24 Oras		Captain Barbell (7:10 PM)		Majika		I Luv NY (8:50 PM)	Love Of The Condor Heroes	Bubble Gang			Saksi
Hallmark Channel				Judging Amy		Sue Thomas F.B. Eye II		McLeod's Daughters		Strong Medicine II		Trust		Midsomer Murders: Destroying Angel				Regenesis	
HBO	Blue City			14 Hours			Stone Cold			Napoleon Dynamite			New On The Big Screen In August	Rome Ep 10: Triumph		Rome Ep 11: The Spoils (9:50 PM)	Rome Ep 12: Kalends Of February		Seed Of Chucky
Hero TV	Rajin-Oh	Combattler V	Duel Masters	Super Gals	Mirmo de Pon	Sugar The Snow Fairy	Naruto	Inuyasha	Saiyuki Reload	Full Metal Panic	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	Transformers Armada	Yu-Gi-Oh GX	B'Daman Bakugaiden	Beyblade G-Revolution	Rajin-Oh	Combattler V	Naruto
IBC 13		EZ Shop				Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	EBC Earth Files		Japan Video Topics/ Arms		EBC Earth Files		Travel Philippines	Japan Video Topics/ Arms	EBC Earth Files	IBC News Tonite	Home Shopping Network	
JackTV		Back Track				Sweat	X-Play	Heat		Mad TV		That 70s Show	Everybody Hate Chris	Family Guy	American Dad	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Primetime Glick	The Late Show David Letterman	
Lifestyle Network	Design Remix	30 Minute Meals	Wolfgang Puck	Sweet Dreams	Smart Solutions	Sensible Chic	DIY Jewelry Making	Food Network Special		Boy Meets Grill	Intimate Portrait		Behind The Velvet Ropes	Martha		Simply Wine With Andrea Immer	The Great Adventure	Iron Chef America	
MTV Philippines		Boiling Points	My Own		MTV Hits					Get Spotted		MTV Diyes		Boiling Points	My Own	MTV News	Handpicked Up Dharma Down		
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	MYXilog	MYX Firsts	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Club MYX	MYX Versions	Urban MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	MYXilog
National Geographic	Wild Orphans	Nat'l Geographic Specials		Violent Earth: Hurricane		Survival Of The [illegible]		Top 5 - England Unveiled		WOW! Amazon Claws		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials		Violent Earth: Hurricane		TUT Resurrected	
NBN		Teledyaryo Alas-Tres		Teledyaryo Sports [illegible]			Dyos Ko, Mahal Mo Ba Siya	Teledyaryo W/ Bro. Lionel & Angelique Lazo		GSIS Member's Hour		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Teledyaryo Final Edition				Bantay OCW With Susan K	
Net 25	INC Chronicles (Filipino)	In Focus	Euromaxx	Ang Mga Nagsi-alis Sa Daang Daan		Ang Pagbubunyag		News Beat (Live)		OpenLine Live	Kapatid Sa Hanapbuhay	Ang Mga Nagsi-alis Sa Daang Daan		Ang Tamang Daan		World Report	In Focus	DWTV Journal News	Tomorrow Today
Nickelodeon	Chalkzone	Hey Arnold!	SpongeBob SquarePants	Rocket Power	Four Eyes	SpongeBob [illegible] Right On Top	My Life As A Teenage Robot	All Grown Up	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	Danny Phantom/ The Fairly Odd Parents	Drake & Josh	Unfabulous	Romeo	Naturally Sadie	SpongeBob SquarePants	As Told By Ginger	The Fairly Odd Parents	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Ang Mass Kong Hoodlum				May Sugat Ang Kahapon				My Pledge Of Love				Doppelganger				[illegible]
Qtv	Gooduck	Shaman King	Outlaw Star	Galaxy Angel	MMS (My Music Station)		Moms		Phoenix	Irene	Fireworks	Damo	Project 11	Ganda Ng Lola Ko		News On Q	Love Life		Irene
RPN 9	TV Shopping				Kapatid Show	RPN Aksyon News		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	WWE Smackdown		World Poker Tour		The Ultimate Fighter		Newswatch Now	TV Greats On Friday		
SBN 21								Sony Music Video				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Shepards Voice		Sony Music Video	
Solar Sports				Badminton: 2006 JVC Open				NBA Inside Stuff	GWS 33-2006	Sagupaan	WNBA Action	WNBA All-Star Game				Solar Sports Desk	NBA Access	World Table Tennis SP	
Sports Plus						GES Marketplace 400 Highlights		World Game		Raceworld		Nopi Tunervision	BM Wall Climbing	BD Tahil & Morre	Wild Side Austin	Golf Today	Inside the PGA	Buick Open Highlights	
Star Movies			Bigger Than The Sky (3:20 PM)			Barbershop 2: Back In Business				The 6th Day (6:55 PM)				Hostage				Mozart And The Whale (10:50PM)	
Star World	Arrested Development	The Bold & The Beautiful		General Hospital		Desperate Housewives		The Simpsons	Malcolm In The Middle	Star News Asia	Seinfeld	TNA Wrestling		Third Watch		NYPD Blue		Seinfeld	Walker Texas Ranger
Studio 23								Superman The Animated Series	Justice League Unlimited	Wazzup Wazzup	Nginiig	Ghost Whisperer (8:15 PM)		Living With Fran (9:10PM)	Will & Grace	News Central	Oprah (10:45PM)		MYXilog

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

CHINA'S Yao Ming (left) celebrates with game hero Wang Shipeng. REUTERS

China shocks Slovenia, crashes playoff rounds

SAPPORO, JAPAN—CHINA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ADvanced to the playoff rounds of the World Basketball Championship with triumphs Thursday while Puerto Rico, Brazil and host Japan were sent home.

Wang Shipeng's dramatic 3-pointer at the final buzzer gave China a 78-77 victory over a Slovenia team with four National Basketball Association players. NBA 2.26m (7-foot-5) center Yao Ming had 36 points and 10 rebounds in the Group D triumph.

"It's a miracle. It's a bigger miracle than our miracle in the last Olympics," said forward Zhu Fangyu, comparing the triumph to one over Serbia and Montenegro to reach the final eight at the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Slovenia also squeaked into the knockout stages thanks to qualified Italy beating Puerto Rico, 73-72. The Caribbean squad was one basket away from edging Italy for a number two seed. Instead, they were ousted on tie-breakers.

The Australians routed winless Qatar 93-46 in Group C round-robin play and advanced when Lithuania qualified by eliminating Brazil 79-74. The Boomers booked a round-of-16 date Sunday against the US team of NBA stars.

Complete pairings for the 16-team knockout rounds that start Saturday at Saitama were awaiting the night's final round-robin games.

New Zealand dumped Panama, 85-75, in Group B, keeping Japan and Panama from advancing. Craig Bradshaw led the Tall Blacks with 17 points.

Unbeaten Greece and Turkey meet to decide the Group C crown later Thursday, the winner joining Olympic champion Argentina, Spain and the US as top seeds in the playoff rounds.

Others already set for the knockout showdown that starts Saturday in Saitama include Angola and Germany.

Argentina completed an unbeaten run through group play with a 83-79 victory over two-time defending champion Serbia and Montenegro.

Nigerias, beat Lebanon, 95-72, as both teams matched Serbia's 2-3 record.

AFP

Nowitzki stars as Germany repulses Angola in 3 OTs

HIROSHIMA—DIRK NOWITZKI saved Germany from the brink of defeat with 47 points as they outlasted Angola 108-103 in overtime in their final Group B match at the World Basketball Championship.

The superstar forward of the US National Basketball Association Dallas Mavericks bagged a three-pointer and two free throws which respectively forced the match into a second and third overtime session, a championship record.

Germany, the 2002 bronze medalists, finished the group with four wins and one loss. It was the second loss for the eight-time African champions, who have also qualified for the knockout rounds.

African coach Alberto Carvalho fumed after the match, complaining that the referees were not fair toward their side as they did not call a foul on Nowitzki in the crucial overtime "to see him make a three-point shot."

He said that one referee tried to calm him at the urging of German coach Dirk Bauermann during the heated match.

AFP

Tiger on the prowl in familiar terrain

AKRON, OHIO—FOR THE DISTANT, chasing pack things are going from bad to worse.

Not only are the world's top players still recovering from the bruising they endured at the hands of world's greatest golfer at last week's USPGA Championship, but now they must take him on over a course he is the recognized master of.

The 30-year-old Woods is back at Akron to defend the WGC-Bridgestone title he won last year.

That was the fourth time in the seven years existence of the tournament that the American had won over the 7,360-yard, par-70 Firestone Golf Course. He has never finished worse than fourth.

As US Open champion Geoff Ogilvy said: "This is his benefit tournament."

A Woods at somewhere below his very best would have been challenge enough here, but he is currently back in the kind of form that leaves others cowering in his wake.

After a prolonged layoff to mark the death from cancer of his father Earl in May, Woods remarkably missed the cut in the US Open in June.

But since then he has tied for second at the Wester Open, before winning the British Open at Hoylake, the Buick Open and the USPGA at Medinah.

A win on Sunday would make it a remarkable four in a row on the PGA Tour.

The field of 78 will include all the top players on the US and European PGA Tours including Phil Mickelson, Ernie Els, Vijay Singh, Sergio Garcia and Luke Donald. For the Europeans involved there will also be vital Ryder Cup points to be collected.

AFP

TIGER WOODS: On a roll. AP

Federer opens title defense vs Taiwanese

NEW YORK—ROGER FEDERER WILL OPEN the defense of his US Open crown by taking on Wang Yeu-Tzuoo of Taiwan.

The world No. 1 will be bidding to become only the third player in the professional era to win three straight titles at Flushing Meadows. The others were John McEnroe (1979-81) and Ivan Lendl (1985-87).

The Swiss star has never before played the 21-year-old Wang, who is ranked 109th in the world, and he looks set for a comfortable run into the second round.

Wednesday's draw was less kind on his top rival and second seed Rafael Nadal. The 20-year-old Spaniard was pitted against former finalist Mark Philippoussis.

The Australian had to accept a wildcard into the event after slumping down the rankings due to injury, but on his day and fully fit he can still be a match for the best. Andre Agassi, in his farewell tourney, opens against Romanian veteran Andrei Pavel of Romania.

AFP

SPORTSWATCH

Pasay stagfest today

ABOUT 60 FIGHTS WILL SPICE UP THE SMALLTIME 3-stag derby today at Pasay City Cockpit with Sagupaan Complexor 3000 as main backer. For an entry fee of P2,200, every participant who scores three points will receive P30,000, said pit managers Eric dela Rosa, Butchoy Olano and Roming Vergara. Meanwhile, the PCCA Stagfighter of the Year race starts next Friday via the special 5-stag derby. Six PCCA stagfests are lined up to determine the winner. Stags with wingbands of Labanan Group, PCAP and NFGB Bakbakan will be accepted. For info, call 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.

Round 3 of SJC derby

ROUND THREE OF SAN JUAN COLISEUM'S RAMbulan 5-stag derby, with P2.8 million in guaranteed prize at stake, starts at 5 p.m. today with more than 60 matches. After two days of battle, 23 bets have advanced to the championship round on Aug. 30. "Participants should take note of the bigger prize on the line," said promoter Ronnie Lacsina. "This is because of the big number of entries." Meanwhile, the SJC management announced the staging of its First Anniversary 5-stag derby on Sept. 11 and 13. Call 0918-9001411 or 725-5369 and 725-6563 for details.

RACING TIPS
BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Landed Visa (3), Key Quest (1), Leica N'Raven (2), High Fashion (7)
Race 2—(Tri)—Ultra Rose (5), No Fear (4), Please Do (2)
Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—La Bella Rossa (7), Floral Arch (4), Zubaida (2), Aryaam (6)
Race 4—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Ayan Na Ko (9), Baling Ganda (6), Fontana De Trevi (4), Gundam (5), Camberwell Beauty (7)
Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Sweet Connections (7), Renzie Stays (8), Cebuana Spell/Earl Gray (6), Thor Patria (2)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Formidable Jaeda (6), Gutsy (4), Pawiliwili (8), Angel Eyes (2), Shifty (9)
Race 7—(Qrt/Tri)—Can and Will (3), Ocean Dignity (6), Shy Girl (4), Danielle's Angel (8)
Race 8—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Graceful Conqueror (7), Western Dancer (6), Extreme Romance (4), Head Turner (3), Il Amorosa (1)
Race 9—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Rivendel (7), Lightning Strike (4), Lydia's Magic (10), Triple Threat (11), At All Costs (5), Erica's Talent (8)

PSA prexy's aunt dies

FELICITAS CANTOR-ANG, AUNT OF MALAYA sports editor and Philippine Sportswriters Association president Jimmy Cantor, died last Aug. 21 after a lingering illness. She was 89. Her remains lie in state at Chapel 5 of the Funeraria Paz on Recto Ave., Manila. Interment will be on Aug. 27 at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina after a 7 a.m. Mass.

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Salvador keeps GM title bid alive

FILIPINO FIDE MASTER ROLAND SALVADOR DREW WITH ITALIAN IM Mario Lanzani in the fifth round Wednesday to keep his GM title bid alive in the Bratto chess tournament in Bratto, Italy. Salvador improved to 3.5 points after the 44-move Queen's Pawn Duel standoff with Lanzani and shared 13th to 30th places in the Swiss event. Salvador needs only one more grandmaster result to become a full-fledged GM. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Reyes, Bustamante eye WC q'finals

NEWPORT, SOUTH WALES — THE TOP-SEEDED PARTNERSHIP OF EFREN "Bata" Reyes and Francisco "Django" Bustamante seeks a slot in the quarterfinals when the Filipinos collide with the Malaysians Thursday in the PartyPoker.com World Cup of Pool Tuesday at the Newport Centre here. After a 9-0 rout of Malta's Tony Drago and Alex Borg, the Filipinos are heavily favored over the Malaysian pair of Ibrahim Bin Amir and Patrick Ooi Fook Yuen. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Juvic 2 shots off Brunei lead with 66

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN—FILIPINO RISING STAR JUVIC PAGUNSAN BIRDIED four of the last five holes for a five-under-par 66 to stalk the early leaders in the $300,000 Brunei Open at the Empire Hotel and Country Club here yesterday.

Pagunsan, the 2005 Southeast Asian Games champion who turned pro early this year, birdied holes 14, 15, 17 and 18 and stood two strokes behind leader Rahil Gangjee of India in a tie with another Indian, Harmeet Kahlon.

Gangjee, a three-year pro, shot eight birdies against a lone bogey to lead by a stroke over Chinese Taipei's Chen Tze-chung, Sung Mao-chang and Lu Wei-chih.

The 27-year-old Pagunsan also birdied the 10th and 11th holes to negate a bogey on the 12th. He had a 35 on the front nine following birdies on the first and sixth holes and a bogey on No. 3.

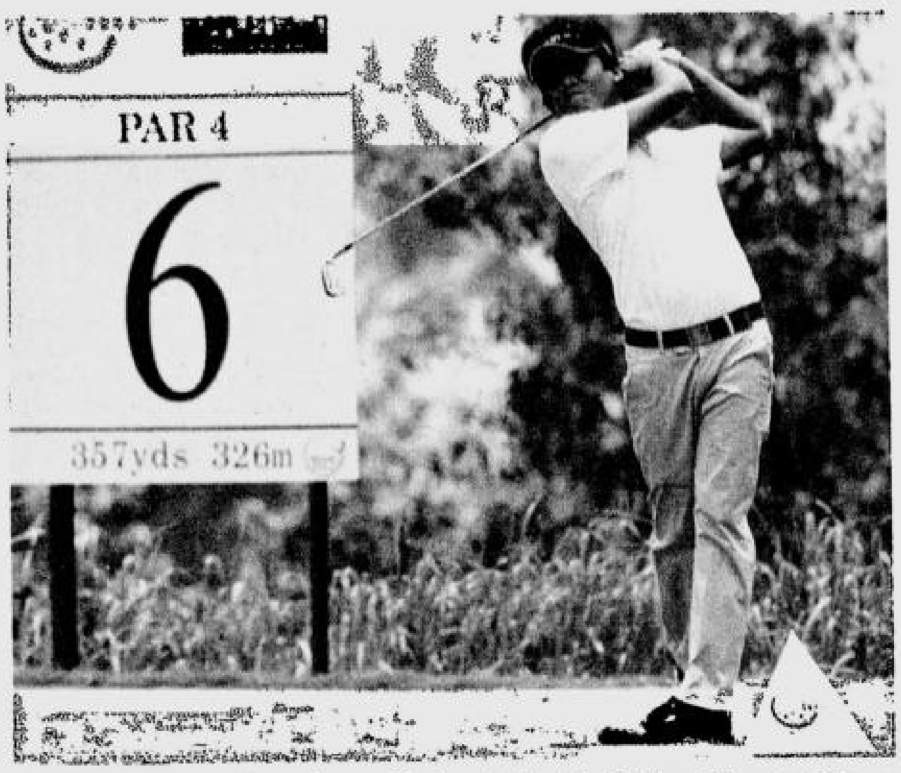
Artemio Murakami and Tony Lascuña shot a 69 and 70, respectively, to also put themselves in contention.

The rest of the Philippine contingent, however, failed to break par as Gerald Rosales settled for a 72, Leonard Estrera and Cookie LaO shot similar 73s, Danny Zarate, Jerome Delariarte carded 74s, Marciano Pucay submitted a 75 and Angelo Que could do no better than a 77.

Ganjee continued his recovery from a hand injury he sustained in May.

The injury forced Ganjee, the 2004 Volswagen Masters champion, to pull out of the Macau Open and skip this year's Bangkok Airways Open and Philippine Open.

Popular Scotsman Simon Yates and Philippine-based Canadian Rick Gibson shot 67s to be three shots off the pace.



JUVIC Pagunsan hits his tee shot on No. 6 at the Empire Hotel and Country Club. AFP

RP golfers settle for third place in Lion City

SINGAPORE—MARVIN DUMANDAN AND JAY Bayron fought back from a disastrous second round with a combined three-under-par 139 but could lift the Philippines only to third place in the Singapore Open Amateur Championship yesterday.

Dumandan, atoning for a 78 in the second round, recovered his putting touch to go two-under after nine holes but he failed to sustain that charge at the backside of the Singapore Island Country Club's Bukit course and settled for a 69.

Bayron, who had a 73 Wednesday, needed three birdies on the last four holes to salvage a one-under 70.

The Filipinos finished the 54-hole team competition with a 425 total to share third place with India, five behind New Zealand, which scored a sizzling round of 135, seven-under, and rallied from fifth to first with a 420 aggregate.

Sri Lanka snatched second place with a 423 after a 139 as second-round leader Singapore bombed out with a 148 and a 428 and tumbled down to sixth. Thailand, second overnight, also limped home with a 141 and finished fifth with 426.

Bayron, meanwhile, emerged as the best Filipino in individual play with a 211 aggregate, five strokes behind Chiragh Kumar of India (70-206).

Five of the eight members of the RP team sponsored ICTSI squad, whose stint here is sanctioned by the National Golf Association of the Philippines, made it to the final round with Michael Bibat, the 2004 champion, sharing 12th place with Dumandan at 214, and Gene Bondoc finally shooting a two-under 69 to tie Anthony Fernando (74) at 26th place with 218s.

Failing to make the cut pegged at 219 were Miko Alejandro (76-227), Eugene Bunyi (76-230) and Dante Becerra (80-237).

Other Filipinos advancing to the final round of the individual competition were Ferdinand Aunzo and former national champion Jun Bernis, who both had 216s after a 69 and 71, respectively.

Tribu five back in NBC

AFTER MISSING THE FIRST conference of this year's National Basketball Conference, inaugural champion Tribu Sugbu has returned to play in the tournament's second stage next month.

NBC secretary general Tito Palma revealed this yesterday after meeting with Skygo's Lito Gillamac Jr. and his new partner, former Cebu City Sports Commission chair Jonathan Guardo, also the chief executive officer of Osaka Iridology and Arthro.

Also present during the meeting were Uniherb CEO and Guardo's younger brother Jerry, head coach Al Solis and team adviser Pastor Mel Caparros.

"After studying NBC's proposal, we decided to bring Cebu back into the league," said Jonathan Guardo, who was impressed with NBC's direction and programs. "We want to make the team's return a big hit."

Tribu Sugbu's return was warmly welcomed by NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and EVP and Tagaytay City Mayor Bambol Tolentino.

"Cebu is the hotbed of basketball in the south," said Padilla. "Tribu proved that by winning the inaugural championship three years ago."

Guioguio helps Del Monte hold off Sta. Elena ladies

CEBU—LOVELYN GUIOGUIO TAMED THE CEbu Country Club course with a three-under 69 worth 57 points and helped Del Monte survive a big charge by Sta. Elena yesterday to keep the Diamond division lead going into the final round of the WGAP Luzvimin Golf Invitational here.

The Del Monte ladies boosted their bid for a breakthrough victory with a 192 for the day, counting the 50 of Marian Woo, 49 of Eva Miñoza and 36 of Inday Miñoza.

Del Monte pooled 385 for 36 holes—just 2 ahead of Sta. Elena in the 54-hole tournament sponsored by Philippine Airlines.

Sta. Elena scored 194 for the day as Vinice Godio fired 55, Carina Ricamonte added 50, Rio Co chipped in 46 and Therese Dabao had 43.

Wack Wack also charged into contention after a 193 built around the 53 of Katya dela Cruz and the 47s of Camille Chung and Stephanie Yu.

It forged a tie for third at 379 with host CCCC, which had a 188 in the second round through Mary Kim Hong (52), Stephanie Olea (48), Maite Unchuan (45) and Hannah Wong (43).

Manila Southwoods recovered with a 193 on the 51 of Carmelette Villaroman and 50 of Regine de Guzman but remained 16 points adrift in fifth place at 369. Mactan Coral was at 329, Tagaytay Highlands at 313 and Forest Hills at 294.

In the Ruby division, Villamor (149-300) led by five points over Pamplona (148-295). Alabang was third at 293 after a 150 followed by Club Filipino (150-292) and Alta Vista (140-284).

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Silang Water District (SWD) through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), is inviting interested manufacturers / suppliers / distributors / dealers to submit their bids for the Supply of uPVC Pipes that comply with the specifications listed in the Bid Form and subject to the conditions stated in the Bid documents.

Interested bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years, with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check or screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria.

The Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on September 1, 2006 at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Interested Bidders may obtain copies of bid documents from the BAC Secretariat Silang Water District – Annex Administration Bldg., E. Gonzales St., Silang, Cavite, upon payment of Six Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P6,500.00) per set, which is non-refundable.

Interested bidders shall submit their eligibility requirements and bids on or before September 13, 2006 at 12:00 o'clock in the afternoon in Silang Water District Annex Building. The same shall be opened on the same day at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon in the same place.

The Approved Budget for this Contract is Php 13,140,000.00.

All written and verbal communications and transactions regarding the bidding process shall be forwarded to the Bids and Awards Committee of Silang Water District located at the above mentioned address, with Telephone No. (046) 4142175 and Facsimile No. (046) 4140886.

The Silang Water District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor informality in the bids received, and to award the contract to the bidder whose bid, as evaluated by the BAC, is the most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) ENGR. ALBERTO L. RESURRECCION
BAC-Chairman
Silang Water District

(PDI – August 18 & 25, 2006)

World caging an eye-opener

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

HAVING REPEATEDLY WATCHED THE telecast of this year's Japan Fiba World Championship, I am convinced more than ever that now is the time for Filipino sports officials to reconsider their lofty plan of regaining the country's past glory in the international basketball arena such as the Asian Games and the Olympics.

I am not being unpatriotic, but based on what I have seen the last few days, Filipino players will find the sailing rough once they trade shots against their foreign counterparts who are—without question—much taller, heftier and faster.

"We are fishing in the sky," said a longtime follower of the sport. "We should face reality. Other countries have improved tremendously while the Philippines has remained stagnant. We are dreaming of winning the Asian Games championship and qualifying for the 2008 Beijing Olympics which is not within our capacity. I just hope the public is informed correctly."

Filipino basketball players are not meant to be genetically tall. Our tallest cagers are much shorter compared with the foreign behemoths who are all seven footers or taller. It is also on record that we have not beaten the Chinese in the Asian Games and the Philippines has never qualified for the Olympics since 1972. Times have changed now.

Even Yao Ming, the most famous Chinese cager who plays for the Houston Rockets in the National Basketball Association, has accepted this fact. According to news reports, Yao is worried that China and Asia will fall farther behind the global basketball powers unless new talents are developed so the region can keep pace with a worldwide boom in the sport.

"This collection of NBA players is the best," said Yao after his Chinese teammates lost to the Americans, 121-90, on Sunday at the World Basketball Championship in Sapporo, Japan. "And Europe and South America have some good players coming out." I agree.

There is no doubt that basketball is the Philippines' No. 1 sport, but our officials should also be reminded that its importance should not be exaggerated. The campaign to compete in the coming Doha Asian Games and qualify for the 2008 Beijing Olympics is a good idea, but practical it is not. The Philippines should take part in lesser level regional tournaments like the Southeast Asian Games, the SEABA Championship and the ongoing Brunei Cup where-at presstime-SMC-Pilipinas is on a winning track.

* * *

LOYZAGA TURNS 76. The greatest Filipino basketball player of all time, Carlos "Caloy" Loyzaga, marks his 76th birthday on Tuesday, Aug. 29. Aptly called "The Big Difference" because he could turn impending defeat into victory, Loyzaga first made an impact in the local cage scene when he spearheaded the San Beda Red Lions to successive NCAA championships in the 1950s. In the battle for the coveted Zamora Trophy, San Beda lost its bid when Loyzaga failed to play for the school due to scholastic reasons. But when he returned to play, San Beda retired the Zamora Trophy after winning the NCAA title in 1951, 1952 and 1955. The late sportscaster nonpareil Willie Hernandez, my idol and mentor during my Evening News days and through the martial law years, called Loyzaga "The Big Difference" in the same way that he called Lauro Mumar "El Presidente" or "The Fox" and countless other basketball heroes with monikers that withstood the test of time.

In the MICAA, Loyzaga led the Yco Painters to 10 straight National Open championships in 1950-1960. With his gift of size (he towers at 6-foot-3 then) and his natural skills as a shooter, rebounder and center, Loyzaga sparked the Philippine team to third place in the World Basketball Championship in Rio de Janeiro in 1954. He made his Olympic debut in Helsinki in 1952 and played in Melbourne in 1956, but missed Rome in 1960 due to a wrist injury he suffered while playing softball. In the Asian Games, he led the Philippines to four consecutive victories and was the skipper of the champion team in the 1960 and 1963 ABC (Asian Basketball Confederation) tournaments. Now based in Australia, he is married to the former Vicky Cuerva with whom he has four children, namely Chito, Joey, Teresa and Bing.

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Manufacturing output dips

Production volume reported to have slid 4.3% in June

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE COUNTRY'S FACTORY OUTPUT APPEARS TO HAVE EXTENDed its sluggish pace while only a handful of manufacturing sub-sectors has reported gains in the recent surge in demand for local products abroad.

Based on the National Statistics Office's monthly integrated survey of selected industries, the country's volume of production index (VoPI) for June had declined by 4.3 percent from the same period last year.

But the NSO added that this was still better than the 5.7-percent year-on-year drop recorded in May.

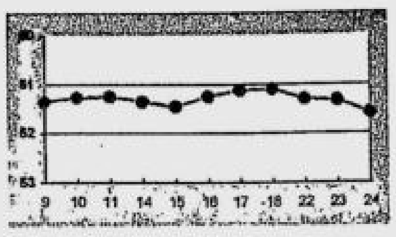
Also, the VoPI in June reflected a slight rise of 0.3 percent on a month-on-month basis due to gains posted by major sub-sectors led by beverages and paper products.

The NSO yesterday said that the following sub-sectors had reported significant reduction in factory output: electrical and non-elec-

MANUFACTURING/ B3

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



AUGUST

₱ 51.60 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Aug. 24, 2006

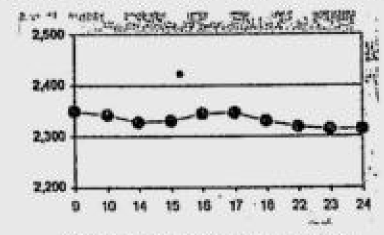
¥ 116.54 = $ 1

As of 3 p.m., Aug. 24, 2006

GOLD: $623.50-624.00

per ounce Hong Kong, Aug. 23, 2006

STOCK MARKET



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Market ends flat

STOCKS YESTERDAY ENDED FLAT, WITH much of the action focused on Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., Banco de Oro and Megaworld.

The benchmark 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index fell 0.48 point, or 0.02 percent, to 2,314.09, adding to the 1.3 percent loss over the past three sessions.

Decliners led gainers 48 to 36, with 56 issues unchanged.

"One reason the market ended flat is the renewed speculation of a further tightening

MARKET/ B2

PAL income from April to June fell 17%

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

FLAG CARRIER PHILIPPINE AIRLINES (PAL) reported that its net income from April to June fell 17 percent to $22.7 million from the $27.5 million posted in the same quarter last year due to higher fuel and maintenance costs, the company said in a report it filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

PAL's fiscal year ends on March 30. The April-to-June period is its first quarter under the current fiscal year.

But according to PAL, revenues remained healthy. It was 6 percent higher during the quarter at $328.8 million from $310 million in the same period last year. The growth was fueled by higher net yield per revenue passenger kilometer (RPK), and the number of passengers carried.

RPK is a barometer of sales volume which can be calculated by multiplying the number of revenue passengers carried on a flight by the distance traveled by each passenger. Revenues also included recoveries from surcharges during the quarter.

Total expenses from April to June rose 8 percent to $306 million from $282.5 million, brought about by higher fuel and maintenance expenses.

Fuel costs, which contributed to the large increase in flying operations, rose 15 percent over the $88 million posted in the same quarter last year.

The average price of a barrel of aviation fuel hit to $77.4 in 2006 from $69 in 2005.

Of the total expenses, flying operations accounted for the largest increase—up 12 percent to $142.8 million in the three-month period ending in June, from the $127 million registered in the same period last year.

Maintenance costs during the quarter rose 12 percent to $49.6 million from $44.4 mil-

PAL INCOME/ B4

IN THIS ISSUE

▨ Elizalde interference /B3

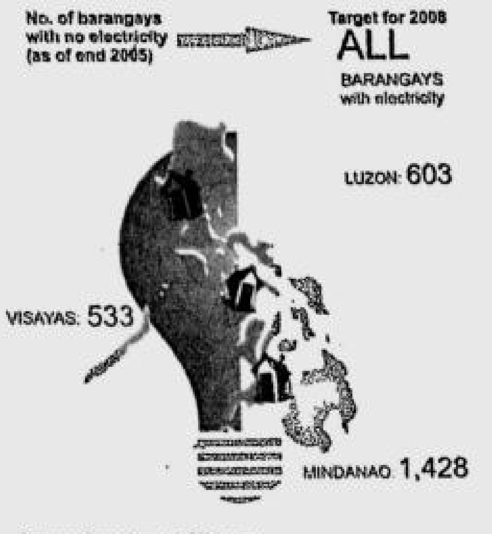
▨ Coconut exports up 13.2% in H1 /B5

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

DOE: 100 percent barangay electrification by 2008

The Department of Energy plans to expand rural electrification to cover all barangays nationwide by the year 2008. As of Dec. 31, 2005, there were more than 2,500 unelectrified barangays in the country.


No. of barangays with no electricity (as of end 2005)
Target for 2008
ALL BARANGAYS with electricity
LUZON: 603
VISAYAS: 533
MINDANAO 1,428

Source: Department of Energy, Energy Programs and Policies (May 2006)

Kate Pedroso Inquirer Research

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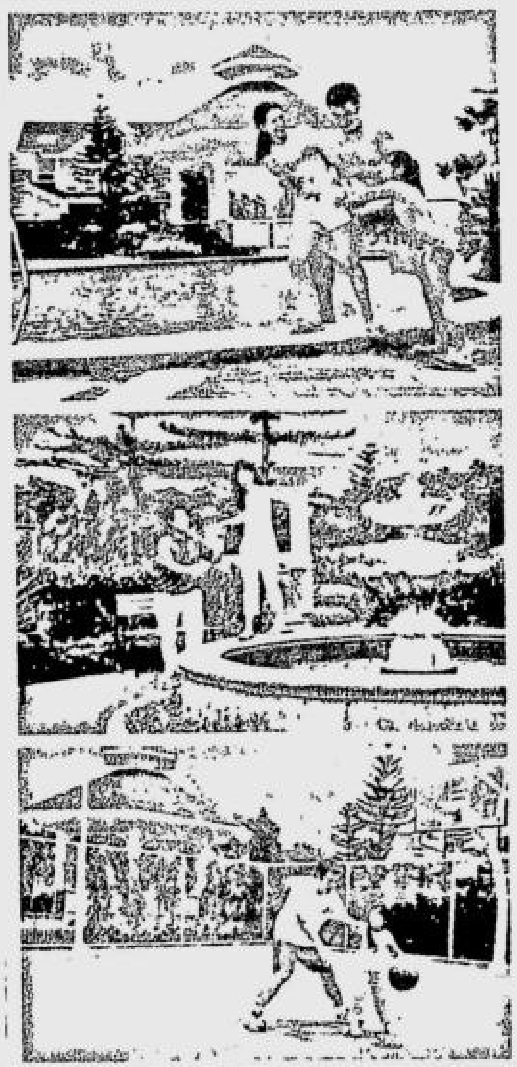

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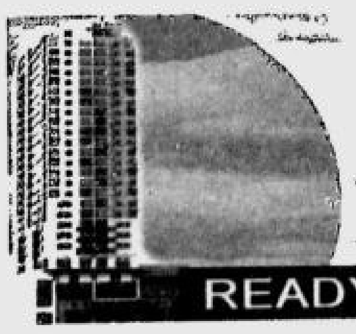

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Foreign buying of RP stocks up 72% as of July, PSE says

Good news led to ₱27.5B in market placements

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

MORE FOREIGN INVESTORS ARE BUYING rather than selling local stocks, according to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

PSE data showed that net foreign buying as of July rose 72 percent to P27.5 billion from P16 billion in the same period last year.

Net foreign buying is computed as the difference between the foreign brokers and investors' purchases and sales.

In the first seven months of the year, total foreign buying went up 22.3 percent to P173.2 billion from P141.7 billion last year.

Total foreign selling also increased, but at a slower pace of 15.9 percent to P145.7 billion from P125.7 billion for the same period last year.

"This means that more and more foreign investors are entrusting their money with us," said PSE president and chief executive officer Francis Lim.

"This is a clear vote of confidence in the country's future, because foreign investors will definitely keep their money elsewhere, if they don't trust our future," he added.

Increased foreign buying was attributed to the slew of good news, including hints of a pause in interest rate hikes from the US Federal Reserve, government plans to embark on a massive infrastructure program, a stronger peso and slowing domestic inflation.

Lim said net foreign buying as of July exceeded the P23.7 billion recorded for the whole of 2005.

As foreign buying went up, stock market activity also enjoyed brisk business, as average daily value turnover for the same seven-month period this year expanded 9.1 percent to P1.9 billion from P1.8 billion a year earlier.

"It's worth noting that, two years ago, daily turnover averaged only P836.3 million. That means we have more than doubled our daily turnover since 2004," Lim said.

Total turnover for the first seven months of the year amounted to P279.9 billion, or 11.3 percent higher than the year-ago level of P251.4 billion.

Total market capitalization of all listed issues as of July 31 increased 6.7 percent to P6.4 trillion from P6 trillion at the end of 2005.

LIM

The market capitalization of listed domestic companies hit P2.6 trillion, or 20.2 percent higher than the P2.1 trillion amount at the end of 2005.

Stock prices, as tracked by the PSEi, went up 14 percent to 2,390.84 points as of July from 2,096.04 at the end of 2005.

During the same seven-month period, the prices of 151 issues went up, those of 31 others retreated, while those of 67 other issues were unchanged, compared to their levels at the end of 2005.

Metro Alliance takes German bank to court

INVESTMENT FIRM METRO Alliance Holdings and Equities Corp. (Metro Alliance) has asked the Singapore High Court to compel German Bank WESTLB AG to refund $1.6 million.

The case stemmed from the alleged failure of WESTLB Ag to transfer the legal ownership of the mothballed Bataan Polyethylene Corp. plant to Metro Alliance as earlier agreed.

Sources said Metro Alliance earlier negotiated with WESTLB AG, a German bank commissioned by creditors of the Bataan plant, to acquire the debt paper of BPC, which listed the Bataan plant as collateral.

Under an agreement between Metro Alliance and WESTLB AG, the German bank would transfer ownership of the Bataan plant worth $10.4 million to Metro Alliance after receiving a $1.6 million down payment.

The balance of $8.8 million was supposed to be paid once it receives the title to the Bataan plant.

But WESTLB failed to deliver the assets, Metro Alliance claimed, even after it gave the down payment.

Later, Metro Alliance, through an offshore-registered special purpose company Polymax Worldwide Ltd., managed to acquire the debt paper of BPC from International Finance Corp.

The acquisition of BPC's debts gave Polymax ownership of the Bataan plant.

The Bataan plant is now under a separate company dubbed NPC Alliance Corp. which is controlled by Polymax.

To kickstart the plant's operations, NPC Alliance would need roughly $20 million in operating capital. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*

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Investment Fund	One-year Return (August 23, 2005 to August 23, 2006)
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Philamlife Global Bond Fund	10.22%**

*Source: BusinessWorld Top 1000 Corporations in the Philippines 2005 (based on 2004 performance)

** Risk Warning: Past performance is not indicative of future results. Our investment management services relate to a variety of investments, each of which can fluctuate in value. The value of portfolios we manage may fall as well as rise, and the investor may not get back the full amount originally invested. The investment risks vary between different types of instruments. For example, for investments involving exposure to a currency other than that in which the portfolio is denominated, changes in the rate of exchange may cause the value of investments, and consequently the value of the portfolio, to go up or down. In the case of a higher volatility portfolio, the loss on realisation or cancellation may be very high (including total loss of investment), as the value of such an investment may fall suddenly and substantially. In making an investment decision, prospective investors must rely on their own examination of the merits and risks involved.

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Basic Qualifications of Nominees

A. Non-ICT Category

1. Company, institution, cooperative or other forms of business setup should be at least majority owned by Filipinos;
2. The company must fall under the small and medium scale category when they first registered their business either with the SEC/DTI/BOI or CDA selling products or providing services and skills;
3. The company must have successfully operated for at least 3 consecutive years;
4. Companies must have shown themselves to be good corporate citizens practicing sound labor management practices, with good financial standing and have contributed to the upliftment of the economic landscape of the Philippine economy; and
5. Companies shall not have incurred any of the following for the past two years:
   - Major complaints from customers
   - Unpaid tax liabilities;

B. ICT-Enabled Category

1. The company must be an ICT business that provides or develop premium original product or services or a business utilizing ICT as tool;
2. The company must have successfully operated for at least 3 consecutive years.

Prizes and Incentives (National and Regional Winners)

- Trophy
- Cash prize (National winners only)
- Personal Computers (National winners only)
- 50% discount on all PHILSMED-related activities
- Free registration fee for attendance to Business Opportunity Event
- Free inclusion to PHILSMED consultancy services
- Automatic free membership to PHILSMED
- One-year subscription to Computerworld Philippines for ICT winners; ENTERPRISE magazine for non-ICT winners

LGUs, banks/ financial institutions, NGOs, trade associations and other socio-civic groups can also send their nominations. Downloadable nomination forms are avalble at http://www.philsmed.com.ph or from PHILSMED at telefax: 832-0996. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES: September 18, 2005**

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT
PHILSMED SECRETARIAT
Look for Francis Picardal Telefax : 832-0996
Email: philsmed@ph.inter.net
Website: http://www.philsmed.com.ph

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Market

From page B1

in US monetary policy," said First Grade Holdings managing director Astro del Castillo, referring to a speech Friday by Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke.

PLDT was the most actively traded stock, slipping 0.3 percent to P1,945 on heavy volume of 143,950 shares traded. PLDT's American Depositary Receipts fell 0.3 percent in New York Wednesday.

Banco de Oro was the second most active issue, advancing 6 percent to P35.50 on the prospect of a merger with Equitable PCI Bank, which closed unchanged at P79.50.

Megaworld, another active stock, closed down 1.2 percent at P1.70 on profit taking after rising 4.9 percent during the past two sessions.

Global Equities climbed 18 percent to P0.58, as the stock continued to ride anticipation over the holding concern's ongoing negotiations with various parties for new ventures.

Philex Mining B dropped 4.6 percent to P4.20 on declining world metal prices.

The market was neutral over a decision by lawmakers earlier Thursday to dismiss a new impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo. Traders said the outcome was established early in the proceedings. *AP*

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of August 24, 2006)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
FINANCIAL					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	9,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	33.5	36.5	33.5	35.5	4,572,300
Bank of the Phil. Islands	53.5	53.5	53	53.5	498,400
China Banking Corp.	695	695	695	695	20
Citystate Savings Bank	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	300
Export and Ind. Bank A	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.38	580,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	79.5	79.5	77	79.5	420,800
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	38	38.5	37.5	38.5	1,282,700
Philippine National Bank	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5	500
Phil. Savings Bank	41	41.5	41	41.5	2,900
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	16.75	16.75	16.5	16.5	4,000
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
Citisecontine.Com Inc.	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	198,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1635	1635	1635	1635	340
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	221	223	221	223	7,840
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2050	2055	2050	2055	570
Ivantage Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.32	1.32	783,000
INDUSTRIAL					
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	43.5	43.5	42.5	42.5	20,600
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	42.5	42.5	42	42	257,700
Manila Electric Co. A	16	16	15.75	15.75	301,600
Manila Electric Co. B	25	25.5	25	25.5	361,400
Manila Water Co. Inc.	9	9	8.8	8.9	1,173,000
Petron Corp.	3.9	3.95	3.9	3.9	5,583,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	720,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	1,501,000
Cadp Group Corp.	2.55	2.6	2.55	2.6	7,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	23	23	22.75	23	35,100
Jollibee Foods Corp.	32.5	33	32.5	32.5	167,800
Rfm Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	500,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	3.9	3.9	3.85	3.9	2,003,000
San Miguel Corp. A	64	64	62.5	63	173,400
San Miguel Corp. B	72.5	72.5	71	72	103,800
Universal Robina Corp	18	18	18	18	463,800
Vitarich Corp.	0.2	0.21	0.2	0.21	2,260,000
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Southeast Asian Cement	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	10,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	1.62	1.62	1.6	1.6	1,672,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.56	40,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	131,000
CHEMICALS					
Corro-Coat, Inc.	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	10,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	100,000
Metro Alliance Hldgs B	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	100,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Global Equities Inc.	0.51	0.6	0.51	0.58	217,230,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.085	0.09	0.085	0.0875	3,100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Asia Amalgamated Holdings	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	9,000,000
Ayala Corp.	417.5	420	417.5	420	163,560
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	220,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.95	4.95	4.9	4.9	479,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.029	0.03	0.028	0.028	47,900,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	146,000
APC Group Inc.	0.29	0.31	0.29	0.29	31,130,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	26,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.97	0.97	0.96	0.97	230,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	1	1	1	1	40,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	4,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.08	1.08	1.06	1.08	1,542,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	4.1	4.1	4.05	4.05	682,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	100,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	292,000
Medco Holdings	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	700,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.34	0.37	0.33	0.37	740,000
Pacifica	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	37,700,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	500,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.14	0.14	0.135	0.135	11,880,000
SM Investments Corp.	218	218	217	218	47,890
South China Resources Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	100,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co	0.12	0.13	0.115	0.13	11,230,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.12	0.12	980,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	13.25	13.5	13.25	13.5	3,869,600
Belle Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	3,178,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.34	6,370,000
Cebu Holdings, Inc.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	589,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1,900,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.47	0.48	0.47	0.47	5,090,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	300,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.05	0.05	0.049	0.05	5,000,000
Filinvest Land, Inc.	1.4	1.42	1.38	1.4	10,356,000
Interport Res.	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.007	26,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	10,000,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	100,000
Fil-Estate Land, Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	450,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	3,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.72	1.74	1.68	1.7	78,232,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.22	0.225	0.22	0.22	19,760,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	30,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	12.25	12.25	12	12	342,700
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.42	3,450,000
SM Development Corp.	1.72	1.76	1.72	1.76	402,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	2,419,000
Suntrust Home Dev. Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	40,000
SERVICE					
MEDIA					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	16.75	16.75	16.5	16.5	94,200
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.24	1.26	3,236,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	995	1000	990	990	31,480
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.75	3.75	3.7	3.7	3,984,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1945	1945	1930	1945	143,950
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	790,000
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.018	0.017	0.017	39,400,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.0575	0.06	0.055	0.055	7,700,000
Transpacific Broadband	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	200,000
Philweb Corp.	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.029	53,600,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	355,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	15	15	14.75	14.75	945,400
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	5,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Acesite Phils Hotel Corp.	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	1,713,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.58	1.58	1.56	1.58	981,000
Manila Jockey Club	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2,000
Philippine Racing Club	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	4,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.48	0.48	670,000
EDUCATION					
Ipeople Inc.	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	90,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Jth Davies Holdings Inc.	16	16	16	16	6,000
Macroasia Corp.	2.4	2.42	2.28	2.28	788,000
Paxys Inc.	10.25	10.5	10.25	10.5	10,608,800
Philippine Seven Corp.	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	5,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	5.3	5.3	4.95	5	2,028,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	5.3	5.3	5	5	1,782,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.008	0.009	0.008	0.009	317,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.2	2,456,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	2.16	2.16	2	2	8,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.26	3,120,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.28	1,700,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.021	0.022	0.021	0.021	591,300,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.025	0.027	0.025	0.027	143,600,000
Omico Corp.	0.0095	0.01	0.009	0.01	323,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	4.2	4.25	4.1	4.1	2,320,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	4.35	4.35	4.15	4.2	3,338,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	161,400
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	110,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.63	0.65	0.62	0.63	4,610,000
OIL					
Basic Consolidated, Inc.	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.27	200,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.011	35,200,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.012	6,200,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	1.26	1.26	1.22	1.22	1,201,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	1.26	1.28	1.26	1.28	630,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	13	13	12.75	12.75	47,700
PREFERRED					
Ayala Corp. Pref. B	103	103	103	103	4,500
PLDT (10% Pref) Series K	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	700
WARRANTS, PHIL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	17	17	16.75	16.75	61,000

CURRENCIES

August 24, 2006

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.781677	1.000000	51.3700
Japan	Yen	0.006717	0.008593	0.4414
United Kingdom	Pound	1.480263	1.893700	97.2794
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.100507	0.128579	6.6051
Switzerland	Franc	0.633142	0.809979	41.6086
Canada	Dollar	0.702505	0.898715	46.1670
Singapore	Dollar	0.497155	0.636011	32.6719
Australia	Dollar	0.596018	0.762486	39.1689
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.073580	2.652731	136.2708
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.208425	0.266638	13.6972
Brunei	Dollar	0.495580	0.633995	32.5683
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000086	0.000110	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.020784	0.026589	1.3659
UAE	Dirham	0.212823	0.272264	13.9862
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.279300	65.7176
Argentina	Peso	0.253380	0.324149	16.6515
Brazil	Real	0.366022	0.468252	24.0541
Denmark	Kroner	0.134016	0.171447	8.8072
India	Rupee	0.016829	0.021529	1.1059
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.212759	0.272183	13.9820
Mexico	New Peso	0.071697	0.091722	4.7118
New Zealand	Dollar	0.499954	0.639591	32.8558
Norway	Kroner	0.124306	0.159025	8.1691
Pakistan	Rupee	0.012963	0.016584	0.8519
South Africa	Rand	0.109841	0.140519	7.2185
Korea	Won	0.000818	0.001047	0.0538
Sweden	Kroner	0.108801	0.139189	7.1501
Syria	Pound	0.015058	0.019264	0.9896
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.023876	0.030544	1.5690
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000364	0.000466	0.0239

Elizalde interference

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

THE COUNTRY'S OLDEST RADIO station, dzRH, is encountering inheritance and succession static.

According to the grapevine, station owner Fred Elizalde is undergoing a PET scan at St. Luke's to determine what could be ailing him.

Although only 66, friends who saw Elizalde during the recent wake of his son were shocked at his frailty, brought about, no doubt, by his love of alcohol and rich foods and, in his younger days, a fast lifestyle.

What is not generally known is that a day before his celebrated June 7, 1997, wedding to Lisa Macuja, Elizalde signed an "antenuptial property agreement" with the ballerina, where the couple agreed to commingle their respective property into conjugal ownership.

What had not been foreseen by such otherwise blissful domestic arrangement is that one of the four sons of Elizalde by a previous marriage, Zev, passed away unexpectedly last month, leaving the question as to who shall inherit his shares in the radio station and other Elizalde property.

According to the 2005 financial report, 17.36 percent of Manila Broadcasting Corp. is owned by a trust fund for the Elizalde children, held by the Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc and De los Angeles law firm as trustee.

In addition, MBC's biggest shareholder at 34.53 percent, Elizalde Holdings Corp., is owned by various trust funds that have executed voting trusts in favor of the Elizalde father.

The holding company, in turn, owns Elizalde Land, which controls 29.8 percent of MBC, and Cebu Broadcasting Corp., whose voting trusts are, in turn, held by MBC directors Eduardo Cordova and Hadrian Arroyo, respectively.

Elizalde has one son, Juan Manuel, listed as working for MBC, as vice president of operations. Macuja, on the other hand, has a brother also working for MBC, Julio II, as executive vice president/treasurer, clearly outranking the young Elizalde.

With the elder Elizalde ailing, the largely passive trustees of the various funds now become pivotal, not only in the disposition of the children's inheritance, but well into the future of one of the country's largest broadcast empires.

Remedial Law, take 2

IT LOOKS like IBP chair Jose Anselmo Cadiz needs another refresher course badly.

Cadiz again misquoted the Rules of Court in seeking to clarify the rebuff the Integrated Bar of the Philippines had received from the Supreme Court, wherein the high tribunal suspended a lawyer, a Sigma Rho fraternity brother of Cadiz whom the IBP board had earlier exonerated.

Cadiz claimed, in a letter to the editor on Tuesday, that a disbarment complainant has 60 days from receipt of the IBP decision to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Actually, Rule 139-B, Section 12, says 15 days. Supreme Court Justice Conchita Carpio-Morales twice cited the same rule in her decision against Cadiz and the IBP, which makes the Cadiz blooper all the more mystifying.

What made the appeal route worse was that it took a year for the IBP to finally furnish the complainant a copy of the decision.

In his letter, Cadiz tried to spread the blame on work overload and by claiming the IBP board had to wait for Accra senior partner Rogelio Vinluan, who wrote the erroneous decision, for his separate recommendation.

To compound the delay, Vinluan had struck out a key legal phrase—"a typhographical error," according to Cadiz—a crucial omission that the erring lawyer tried to capitalize on to help him off the IBP hook.

Dagdag-bawas, MAP version

FORMER Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia wrote to say that he never re-applied for membership to the Management Association of the Philippines, but was invited back by the group by "unanimous" decision.

As hinted at in the Aug. 16 column, there is some strident opposition to Cuisia's return—led by a former Manila Polo Club president, an honorary consul, and a former NFA official—despite MAP Evelyn Singson's shepherding the vote.

After a prolonged, spirited exchange, the membership committee decided to vote by secret balloting, not by the usual "viva voce" route, to determine Cuisia's fate.

The long and the short of it is that, to prevent anyone from losing face, MAP decided to make it appear, after the banker had already tallied the majority vote, that his acceptance had been unanimous.

And that is how it came to pass.

Without realizing it, the anti-GMA association had engaged in its own "dagdag-bawas," MAP-style.

Heard through the grapevine

IT'S a good thing that a Senate investigation scheduled last Wednesday had been postponed; otherwise, PCGG Commissioner Ricardo Abcede and Mike Arroyo cousin Benito Araneta would have walked into a trap, laid by a New York-based Filipina-American socialite and the Roco Kapunan law firm.

More on this on Monday.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

PCA wants 5% tariff on palm olein retained

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY is seeking the retention of tariffs on palm olein imports at 5 percent beyond 2010, when the rate is scheduled for reduction to 3 percent under the Asean Free Trade Area's Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Scheme.

The proposal, which was submitted to the Tariff Commission, was aimed at giving the local palm oil industry enough time to develop.

PCA Deputy Administrator Arturo Liquete said in an interview yesterday that the 5-percent tariff cover would enable the PCA to develop additional 131,000 hectares of land into palm plantations. At present, only 29,000 hectares, mostly in Mindanao, are planted to palm trees.

Palm olein, a by-product of palm oil, is a cheaper alternative to coconut oil in the production of cooking oil.

Liquete the reduction of the palm olein tariff to 3 percent and, eventually, to zero would result in the influx of imported oils.

Philippine vegetable oil millers and refiners, according to Liquete, sell more of palm olein to the domestic market as they earmark their coconut oil stocks for exports. This is because coconut oil commands premium prices in the international market, he adds.

As the local market seeks cheaper products, cooking oil manufacturers have increased their imports and use of palm olein by 90 percent since the middle of last year to reduce costs and selling prices.

Palm olein-based cooking oil is about P10 per liter cheaper than coconut oil-based cooking oil.

"The use of palm olein has gained in-roads in the local market as household consumers and institutional buyers now prefer it because of its lower price," said San Miguel Corp. assistant vice president Greg Illesca.

Illesca said there was not much distinction in the quality and taste of these two vegetable oils.

He said several institutional buyers, including fast food chains and restaurants, have switched to palm olein oil.

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Gov't seeks lifting of Tokyo ban on RP smoked tuna exports

Trade chief taps help of Japanese counterpart

By Ronnel W. Domingo

TRADE SECRETARY PETER B. FAVILA ON Thursday said he had made inroads on the possible lifting of Japan's ban on smoked tuna shipments from the Philippines.

The trade secretary said he had enlisted the help of his Japanese counterpart to help push for a review of Tokyo's policy.

Favila, who is in Kuala Lumpur attending the 38th Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Economic Ministers Meeting, said Toshihiro Nikai, Japan's minister of economy, trade and industry, had promised to get a fair hearing from the health officials in Tokyo over the Philippines' plea for a reconsideration of the ban.

Nikai was also in Malaysia for a consultation between Japan's METI and the Asean economic ministers.

"We have no guarantees from the Japanese side but it was a good meeting because Nikai's help could lead to a review of the (Japanese quarantine testing system)," Favila said.

Local exporters have been pushing for such a review as estimates showed that they have lost some $1 billion in potential revenue since the ban was implemented in 1997.

Favila said a review would be a confidence-building measure at the very least and might even lead to the re-opening of the Japanese market to the Philippines' frozen smoked tuna exports.

FAVILA

He said there was still a hard fight ahead for the petitioning exporters given Japan's "extreme sensitivity" over the safety of their consumers and the strict sanitary and phytosanitary regime that Tokyo was maintaining.

Japan's Department of Health and Welfare barred shipments from the Philippines, declaring that the filter-smoking process used to make smoked tuna posed health hazards to Japanese consumers—a claim that lawmakers as well as industry players dismissed as "bogus."

Japanese authorities have declined requests from the Philippine Department of Agriculture to lift the ban, insisting that carbon monoxide residue was a prohibited food additive under their laws.

In an earlier statement, the Fresh Frozen Seafood Association of the Philippines criticized Tokyo's "double-standard" treatment of Philippine exports, saying that while Tokyo has banned Philippine smoked tuna "supposedly" due to health risks, companies in Japan were actually exporting the same product made through the filter-smoking process.

Industry data show that local processors were exporting to Japan over 2,000 metric tons of smoked tuna a year before the ban.

Tuna exports—including smoked, fresh, chilled, frozen to canned—last year reached about 63,000 metric tons. These were exported mainly to the United States, Singapore, European Union, Japan and Canada.

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Per DTI-NCR Permit # A2-277 Series of 2006

Manufacturing . . .

From page B1

trical machinery, tobacco, wood and wood products, footwear and wearing apparel, transport equipment and rubber products.

In terms of value, factory output in June grew 9.6 percent from a year ago, driven by demand for leather products, basic metals, petroleum products, fabricated metal products, food, beverages and textiles.

The sector's net sales during the period also dropped 8.6 percent by volume, but rose 3.8 percent by value.

On a monthly basis, the value of production index recorded a slow growth of 1.2 percent in June, with 14 of the 20 major sub-sectors posting increases in production.

In measuring the impact on employment, analysts and economists generally prefer the volume of production, or factory output, as a more relevant barometer.

Based on rough estimates from the National Economic and Development Authority, only about 12 percent of the local manufacturing sector exported products.

This means that the products of most Philippine factories find their way to the domestic market which, in turn, is flooded with cheap imports from manufacturing powerhouses like China.

Dennis Arroyo, Neda director for policy planning and research, noted that there was a "mismatch" between the country's sluggish VoPI and the robust export earnings.

But Arroyo said that the export sector, including the minority of manufacturers who sell their goods abroad, accounted for a hefty 40 percent of the country's economic output in terms of earnings value.

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RP wary of advancing Asean economic zone

Favila cautions against adverse effects of rapid liberalization

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE PHILIPPINES ASKED LEADERS OF THE Association of Southeast Asian Nations to carefully consider the plan to advance the realization of an Asean Economic Community by five years to 2015, and expressed "guarded optimism" on the faster schedule.

Trade Secretary Peter B. Favila, who is in Kuala Lumpur attending the 38th Asean Economic Ministers Meeting, in a statement warned Asean leaders of the negative effects of rapid trade liberalization.

"The Philippines has consistently called for sustainable timelines and safety nets to assist domestic industries that might be hard hit by increased foreign competition," Favila said.

"Domestic industries need help in channeling their capital and human assets into other enterprises in which they might be more competitive," he added.

"We need to maintain this guarded optimism until we see that the ministries for the political/security and cultural (sections) of the Asean Community buy into the concept," Favila said.

He said the AEM had previously been consistently pre-occupied with coordinating the efforts of other line agencies of government with the economic retooling and repositioning strategies of the AEM.

Favila said the challenge this time was to coordinate on a much wider front and that Asean economic reform should be done carefully to prevent disenfranchisement of domestic sectors.

The AEC is a major part in efforts to integrate the 10 members into an Asean Community, the establishment of which heads of states and governments agreed on during their 2003 Summit in Bali, Indonesia.

Asean groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Originally, the AEC was envisioned to be ready and running by 2020, but economic ministers decided the other day to accelerate the timeline amid tough competition for global trade and capital from China and India.

In particular, leaders from Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia expressed concern that the AEC- patterned after the European Community- needed to be set up earlier to enable Asean to compete as a group with the two Asian economic powerhouses.

China and India, which are riding a wave of rapid economic growth in the past several years, have been luring more and more trade and foreign direct investments, which some leaders see as a threat to inflows bound for Southeast Asia.

The AEC vision provides for a free flow of goods, services and skilled people as well as freer flow of capital across borders within the region, which are hoped to make Southeast Asia more attractive to investors.

ECONOMIC Ministers from foreground, China's Yi Xiao Zhun, Malaysia's Rafidah Aziz, South Korea's Kim Hyun Chong and Japan's Toshihiro Nikai listen to a question during the 38th Asean+3 Economic Ministers Meeting joint press conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. AP

MANIFESTO IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPLAINT AGAINST SPECIFIC AWARD-GIVING BODIES

We are non-stock trade associations committed to protecting the interests of the consumers.

We fully support the filing of the complaint entitled *" Direct Selling Association of the Philippines, et al vs. Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards Institute, National Shopper's Choice Institute, National Product Quality Excellence Awards, Philippine Quality Awards for Business Excellence, Agora Awards for Marketing Excellence Institute, Star Brands Awards Council, People's Brand Awards Institute, International Management Excellence Awards, National Consumers Affairs Foundation, and Manuel Jose Oyson III"* with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) for violation of Article 110 and 115 of R.A. No. 7394 (Consumer Act of the Philippines)

The complaint is anchored on the following grounds:
a) Soliciting monetary consideration ("award fees") in exchange for the awards;
b) Conferment of awards to various companies without any proper substantiation and statistical data, in violation of Articles 110 and 115 of R.A. No. 7394 or the Consumer Act of the Philippines; and
c) Questionable objectivity, credibility and integrity of the evaluation process employed in the selection of awardees.

The following are the Awards conferred by the said bodies:

1. **Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards**
2. **National Shopper's Choice Awards**
3. **National Product Quality Excellence Awards**
4. **Global Excellence in Marketing Awards (Symbol of Agora Excellence)**
5. **Star Brand Awards**
6. **People's Brand Awards**
7. **International Management Excellence Awards**
8. **National Consumers Quality Awards**

In the complaint, it was stated that the respondent award-giving bodies despite having only been organized in 2005, have given out close to 3,000 awards.

◆

Philippine Marketing Association
Advertising Board
Public Relations Society of the Philippines
Philippine Franchise Association
Bank Marketing Association of the Philippines
Outdoor Advertising Association of the Philippines
Direct Marketing Association of the Philippines
Direct Selling Association of the Philippines
Book Development Association of the Philippines

◆

ADVT.

Hedcor, TI, top Cordillera taxpayers

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—ABOITIZ-OWNED HYDROelectric Development Corp. and Texas Instruments Philippines Inc. have topped the list of taxpayers in the Cordilleras in the first half.

Data from the Bureau of Internal Revenue showed that power plant operator Hedcor paid P33 million in taxes as of June under the Benguet district, followed by exporter Tipi of the Baguio district with P1.3 million.

Hedcor operates 19 run-of-river power plants all over the country, although slow demand for renewable energy due to lapses in the Electric Power Industry Reform Act compelled it to slow down investments in Luzon so they can concentrate in Davao City.

It has been asked to operate Baguio's Asin Hydroelectric Plants.

On the other hand, semiconductor firm Tipi was the first firm to set up shop in the Baguio Economic Zone in 1981, and has expanded recently with an additional P300-million investment.

Texas Instruments manufactures and assembles semiconductor chips used in cellular telephones and computers.

BIR Cordillera director Norberto Vitug said the region has already collected P189.3 million as of July, still more than P1 billion shy of its target for the year of P2.672 billion, with the help of the tax payments from these two companies.

He said the BIR has cited his revenue office for collecting the most taxes from January to June among BIR centers tasked to collect up to P2 billion.

Vitug said his office was anticipating a windfall from back taxes due from Camp John Hay Development Corp. should Congress fail to pass a tax amnesty law this year.

The Supreme Court voided the tax incentives of the developer of the former American base in Baguio.

The House of Representatives tried to correct this impasse by proposing a bill that would restore the fiscal benefits of all special economic zones run by the Bases Conversion Development Authority. *With a report from Seraneth Anne Dequito*

PAL income …

From page B1

lion due to aircraft component and engine repairs.

PAL may soon be listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange after its affiliate, Baguio Gold Holdings of taipan Lucio Tan, announced that it had agreed to acquire 82 percent of PAL.

Under the plan, Baguio Gold will buy six companies controlled by Tan: POL Holdings Inc., Cube Factor Holdings Inc., Ascot Holdings Inc., Sierra Holdings and Equities Inc., Network Holdings and Equities Inc., and Maxell Holdings Corp.

The six firms collectively own 81.6 percent of PAL.

Baguio Gold will assume the liabilities of the six companies, subject to the result of an ongoing audit of their accounts.

A financial structure may be ready before PAL holds its stockholders' meeting on Aug. 30.

Aside from Lucio Tan, the government holds 4 percent of PAL through Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines and the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Retirement and Separation Benefits System (AFP-RSBS).

PAL employees own over one percent, while the rest are distributed among private shareholders.

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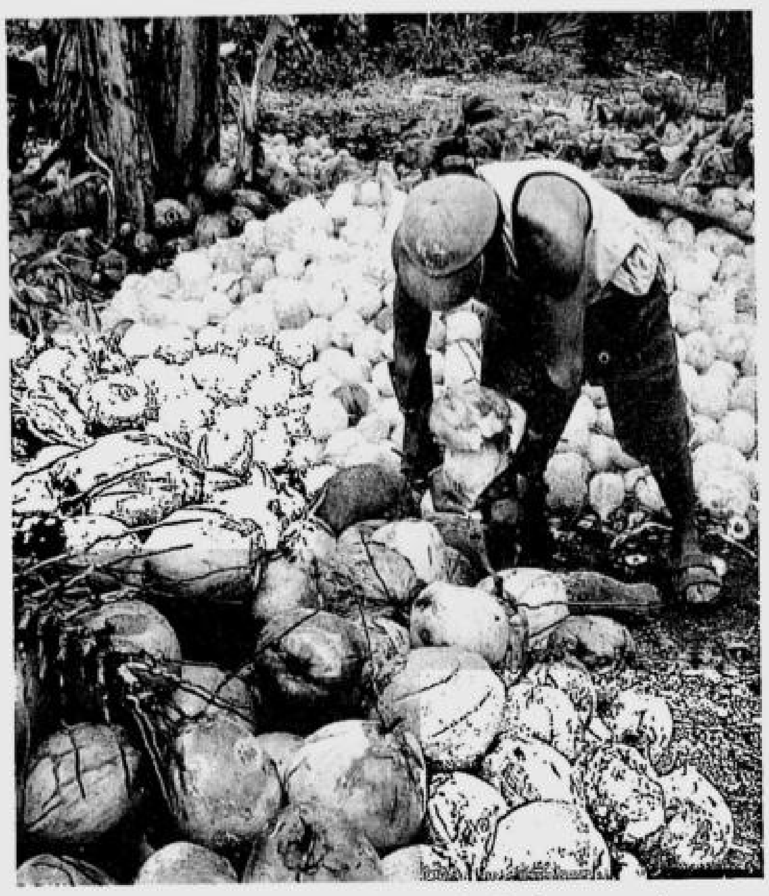
Coconut exports up 13.2% in first semester



A FARMER prepares his coconut harvest for further processing.

Full-year growth seen slowing down to 3.6 percent

By Ronnel W. Domingo

EXPORTS OF COCONUT-BASED products in the first half of the year grew by 13.2 percent despite a downturn in shipments in June, according to an industry report.

Data from the United Coconut Associations of the Philippines showed that the total export volume of coconut products from January to June this year reached 1.064 million metric tons in copra terms compared to 940,756 MT in the same period last year.

Coconut oil continued to be the top export with shipments growing by 16.5 percent to 576,404 MT as of end-June while copra meal cargoes grew by 22.9 percent to 248,645 MT.

Exports of oleochemicals grew by 2.4 percent to 59,610 MT in copra equivalent but outbound shipments of desiccated or dehydrated coconut shrank by 7.2 percent to 58,409 MT.

UCAP data further showed that the growth in the volume of exports was maintained despite a downturn in the shipments of almost all major products in June, except oleochemicals.

Exports of oleochemicals in June reached 6,629 MT, representing an improvement of about 103 percent from 3,267 MT in the same month last year.

The total export volume in June dipped 28.8 percent to 97,088 MT in copra terms from 136,438 MT in the year-ago comparable period.

The June export figure was also 49.4 percent lower than the 191,961 MT registered in May.

Coconut oil shipments slid by 35.2 percent to 47,667 MT; copra meal cargoes deflated 30.9 percent to 34,491 MT and desiccated coconut declined by a tenth to 9,571 MT.

In June, the United States was the country's main market of the country's coconut oil shipments, accounting for 20,797 MT or 43.6 percent of the total.

The European market got 12,000 MT or a quarter of the total while Japan, India, China and Taiwan shared the remainder at less than 12 percent each.

South Korea bagged about 71 percent or 24,413 MT of total copra meal shipments in June while Vietnam and Japan copped the remaining volume at 6,078 MT or 17.6 percent and 4,000 MT or 11.6 percent, respectively.

In an earlier report, UCAP said the country's coconut output and exports volume are expected to grow at slower rates this year based on rainfall patterns in 2005.

The group said coconut production in 2006 would reach about 2.66 million metric tons in copra terms or a "slight" increase of 4.3 percent from 2.55 million in 2005.

At the same time, total export volumes is expected to increase by 3.6 percent this year to 2.17 million MT in copra terms which is just about a quarter of last year's growth rate of 14.6 percent.

Legacy for farmers

COMMENTARY

By Ernesto M. Ordonez

LAST AUG. 23, FR. JOSE BLANCO, SJ, WAS buried. He was known for his courage and love for the poor. Imprisoned during Martial Law and fighting for justice until the end, Blanco left a legacy for farmers to follow. As the Jesuit Provincial Fr. Daniel Huang, SJ said during that day's funeral services, "Father Blanco made me fully aware of the social and political obligations we must all undertake."

That same afternoon, the Alyansa Agrikultura visited Sen. Ralph Recto, chair of the Senate ways and means committee, to seek social justice for the farmers by including funds for them in the Department of Agriculture's budget.

When queried by a senator in a Senate Committee hearing why there was no DA budget inclusion, an agriculture official said the department had not been asked to submit any proposal.

Incidents such as this upset the farmers. They have two valid complaints. First, they were promised safety nets when the Philippines agreed to a rapid agricultural trade liberalization, but funds for these were never provided.

Second, the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (Afma) mandates that the DA should get P32 billion yearly. For the last five years, the DA budget has remained stagnant at P15 billion. Newspaper reports on Aug. 1 stated that P4.9 billion out of the P46.4-billion supplemental budget had been allocated for the DA. However, Agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban told the Alyansa in a meeting on Aug. 4 that this was not true.

Insurgency and violence

This is but one small example of many events that assault the concept of social justice and provide the climate for insurgency. With insurgency comes violence, which makes the situation even worse.

It is in this context that Father Blanco leaves an important legacy for farmers to follow. He rejected violence in all its forms. He said, "People called Ghandi's approach one of passive resistance. But Ghandi was far from passive when he confronted the powerful British Empire and won in his quest for justice. What we need in the Philippines is a modification of Ghandi's approach tailored to our experiences."

Blanco called this "active non-violence." To capture the unique approach he advocated, which combined both spiritual and temporal aspects, he named the strategy "Alay Dangal" which, in a strict literal translation into English, meant "Offering of Dignity." Blanco said, "Jesus Christ is our model, for He offered His dignity and entire being for the welfare of others."

Six steps

There are six steps in undertaking Blanco's legacy of successful active non-violence. Let us apply these steps to the farmer's quest for more DA support funds.

- Proclaim the truth. We must let everybody know that the DA was completely forgotten in the P46.4-billion supplemental budget.
- Protest the injustice. We must strongly object to this act of negligence. It violates the Afma law on required funds. It is also a betrayal of the promise to provide agricultural safety nets for poor farmers, and favors less worthy projects.
- Part from injustice. We must do a reexamination of ourselves to correct any wrongs we may be doing when we consciously or subconsciously favor our interests unjustly at the expense of others.
- Penetrate the conscience of the adversary. The supplemental budget is now at the House of Representatives. We must now alert them to this injustice, which many may have overlooked. If they do not respond, we must inform the senators, to whom this supplemental budget will go later. This way, the senators become our champions rather than our potential adversaries.
- Pray. We must pray not only for our adversaries but also for ourselves, so that we are not distracted by our own selfish motives.
- Pay the price. This is the most difficult step of all. As Fr. Noel Vasquez said in his homily at the funeral rites, "Father Blanco always asked us to decide when faced with a difficult situation. And to decide in favor of others rather than self, even though the price might be very high."

Fighting for a just share of the supplemental budget may come at the price of much effort and alienating some powerful people.

Continuing the legacy

Living Blanco's legacy in this and other much bigger just causes can be helped through the Center for Active Non-violence, with Dr. Teresita Ramiro as the contact person (tel. no. 563-7328).

It is hoped that the desperate farmers who may have been wronged unjustly refrain from the violence that makes things worse, and instead continue Blanco's legacy of active non-violence.

(The author is Agriwatch chair. For inquiries and suggestions, email agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax (02) 8522112)

GSIS: No plan to put more money in EPCIB

THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURance System (GSIS) said it was no longer interested in infusing more investments into Equitable-PCIBank (EPCIB).

In a statement, GSIS president and general manager Winston Garcia said the GSIS would rather look elsewhere for investment opportunities than bother with a bank besieged with boardroom bickering.

The pension fund chief issued the statement in response to lawmakers' query on claims made by different workers' organizations that the GSIS and the Social Security System were planning to invest more in EPCIB.

On the contrary, Garcia insisted that the GSIS wanted to divest from EPCIB but "only if the price is right."

The GSIS currently owns about 13 percent of the country's third largest bank.

Of GSIS' P320 billion in total investments, about P40 billion was placed in the stock market, mostly in stocks of blue chip companies like San Miguel Corp. and Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.

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Investments of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Current Week Aug. 22, 2006	Last Week Aug. 15, 2006
Bond Fund - Peso	1.46483	1.45676
Managed Fund - Peso	1.60710	1.60039
Growth Fund - Peso	1.27084	1.26980
Bond Fund - US Dollar	1.2731	1.2630

* Note These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

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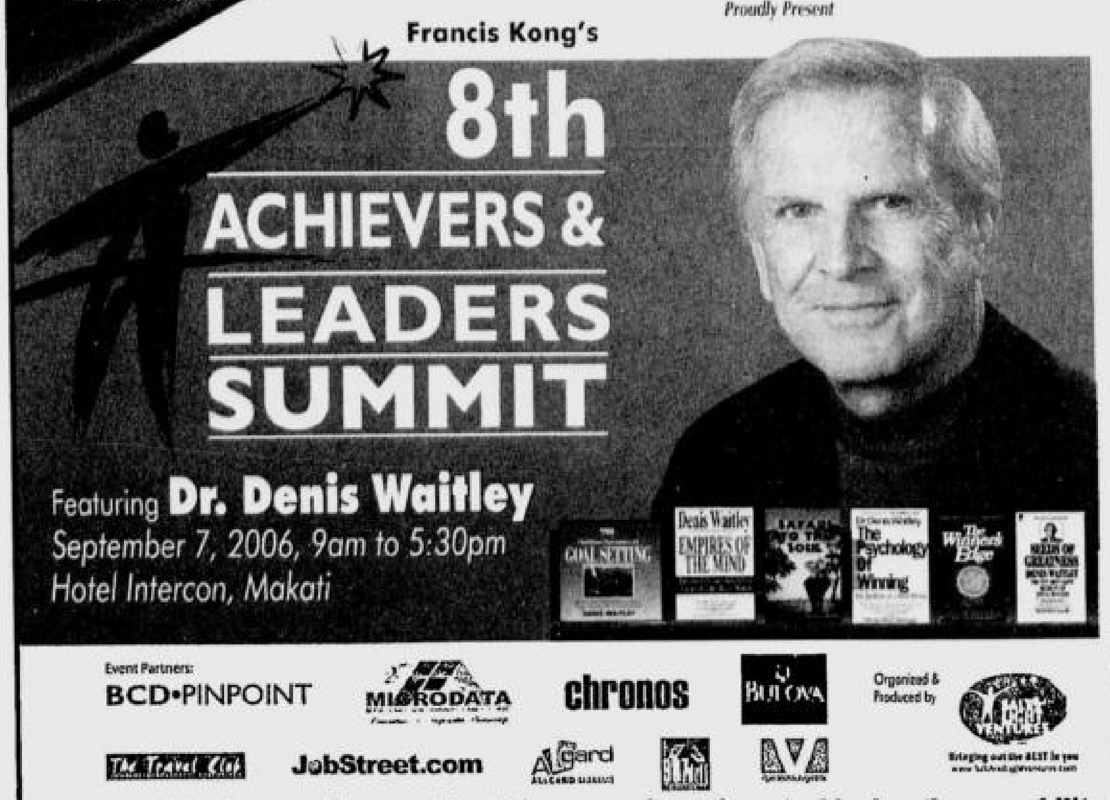

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LEADING PEOPLE FROM SUCCESS TO SIGNIFICANCE
Butch Jimenez
Shares stories and insights on how he set and achieved his goals and those of his team and how they continue to break records.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP
Dylan Wilk
Leaving a life of comfort and luxury to help build a movement for nation-building, he shares what he saw in the Filipino that can make every one a hero.

ACHIEVING YOUR MOST CHALLENGING GOALS
Roselle Ambubuyog
Totally blind from age six, Roselle overcame her handicap and graduated on top in all her academic levels – now helping in finding screen access solutions for the blind & partially-sighted on mobile devices. How she achieved all that she will share.

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REGIONS 8, 9 AND 10
Fiscal Year 2005

(in thousand pesos)

Local Government Units	Class	Balance Sheet: Total Assets	Balance Sheet: Total Liabilities	Balance Sheet: Total Equity	Total Income	Rank 1	Rank 2	Total Expenses	Rank 1	Rank 2	Net Income (Net Loss)	Rank 1	Rank 2	% of Net Income (Net Loss) to Total Income
REGION 8		5,570,324	1,312,659	4,257,665	4,172,505			3,644,575			527,930			13
Biliran		239,226	79,922	159,304	196,300			177,083			19,217			10
Almeria	5	16,662	3,223	13,439	21,771	96	5	18,812	101	5	2,959	62	2	14
Biliran	5	27,168	7,430	19,738	21,174	99	6	18,558	103	6	2,617	67	3	12
Cabucgayan	5	20,515	17,659	2,856	22,425	91	4	22,018	74	3	407	121	7	2
Caibiran	5	28,270	16,128	12,141	24,058	78	2	23,372	66	2	685	115	6	3
Culaba	5	9,140	1,863	7,277	18,469	112	7	18,413	104	7	56	125	8	0
Kawayan	5	14,162	2,551	11,611	22,492	90	3	21,197	82	4	1,295	99	5	6
Maripipi	5	16,682	3,771	12,911	15,498	125	8	13,050	128	8	2,449	72	4	16
Naval	3	106,627	27,297	79,331	50,412	15	1	41,663	17	1	8,750	10	1	17
Eastern Samar		676,625	166,549	510,077	575,158			518,975			56,183			10
Arteche	5	29,024	2,473	26,551	23,470	83	11	20,589	88	12	2,881	64	11	12
Balangiga	5	42,076	25,516	16,560	23,329	85	12	20,336	91	13	2,993	59	9	13
Balangkayan	5	15,195	1,091	14,104	22,504	89	14	20,724	87	11	1,780	90	14	8
Borongan	1	77,882	26,674	51,208	72,198	6	1	66,300	4	1	5,899	24	3	8
Can-avid	4	68,017	17,671	50,346	32,389	46	7	28,627	45	7	3,761	46	6	12
Dolores	3	48,560	15,255	33,305	42,051	26	3	36,158	23	3	5,893	25	4	14
Gen. MacArthur	5	52,108	7,940	44,168	20,266	103	17	19,374	97	15	892	107	16	4
Guiuan	3	38,350	11,770	26,580	44,982	22	2	41,121	18	2	3,861	44	5	9
Hernani	5	12,719	3,384	9,335	15,837	124	19	16,932	111	17	(1,095)	132	23	(7)
Jipapad	5	10,653	1,689	8,964	21,508	97	16	19,040	99	16	2,468	71	12	11
Llorente	3	60,604	5,190	55,414	40,467	27	4	34,343	27	4	6,124	22	2	15
Maslog	5	29,376	1,474	27,902	22,902	87	13	16,050	114	18	6,851	17	1	30
Maydolong	4	35,910	2,604	33,306	33,368	42	6	30,463	37	6	2,905	63	10	9
Mercedes	5	10,607	4,003	6,604	12,803	132	20	12,914	130	20	(110)	127	22	(1)
Oras	4	17,376	1,482	15,894	34,312	36	5	31,030	36	5	3,282	56	8	10
Quinapondan	5	25,471	6,846	18,625	22,013	95	15	19,669	95	14	2,344	74	13	11
Salcedo	5	11,746	608	11,138	24,487	75	8	24,354	61	8	133	123	18	1
San Julian	5	31,674	3,912	27,761	23,942	79	9	22,655	70	10	1,287	100	15	5
San Policarpio	5	21,120	1,688	19,432	18,757	110	18	15,153	118	19	3,604	48	7	19
Sulat	5	38,157	25,280	12,877	23,572	82	10	23,143	67	9	430	120	17	2
Leyte		2,664,491	647,211	2,017,280	1,533,971			1,337,566			196,405			13
Abuyog	1	118,520	17,286	101,235	74,184	5	3	68,812	3	2	5,372	30	11	7
Alang-alang	3	73,672	26,388	47,284	42,897	24	13	34,308	28	16	8,589	13	7	20
Albuera	3	67,976	5,219	62,757	43,595	23	12	34,425	25	14	9,171	9	5	21
Babatngon	4	45,503	13,172	32,330	27,196	63	29	28,323	47	23	(1,127)	133	41	(4)
Barugo	4	67,864	12,953	54,912	30,559	50	24	26,982	52	25	3,577	49	19	12
Bato	4	52,069	32,330	19,739	37,397	32	16	34,389	26	15	3,008	58	21	8
Baybay	1	272,988	57,039	215,949	93,330	2	2	74,026	2	1	19,304	3	2	21
Burauen	2	80,648	12,905	67,743	53,770	12	7	40,609	19	10	13,162	6	4	24
Calubian	4	58,053	6,739	51,314	29,987	52	25	27,000	51	24	2,987	60	22	10
Capoocan	4	51,855	9,214	42,641	32,528	45	22	28,709	43	21	3,818	45	17	12
Carigara	3	69,234	20,957	48,277	46,166	21	11	47,049	11	7	(883)	131	40	(2)
Dagami	4	49,527	16,963	32,565	33,831	40	19	28,946	41	20	4,885	36	15	14
Dulag	3	81,368	27,041	54,328	39,846	28	14	34,896	24	13	4,950	34	13	12
Hilongos	2	91,663	9,951	81,711	52,627	13	8	44,925	14	8	7,703	14	8	15
Hindang	5	36,112	7,828	28,284	23,866	80	33	20,370	90	35	3,497	51	20	15
Inopacan	4	36,085	7,044	29,041	27,474	60	28	25,333	59	29	2,141	84	28	8
Isabela	2	175,408	44,529	130,879	95,955	1	1	63,908	6	3	32,047	2	1	33
Jaro	3	68,713	24,299	44,413	55,595	10	6	39,292	20	11	16,303	5	3	29
Javier	4	34,501	5,490	29,011	28,731	56	27	25,914	55	27	2,817	65	23	10
Julita	5	33,915	7,931	25,984	18,934	109	38	16,616	112	38	2,319	77	26	12
Kananga	1	178,895	49,602	129,293	65,994	8	4	57,270	8	5	8,725	11	6	13
La Paz	5	33,100	13,888	19,212	25,994	68	30	21,102	83	32	4,892	35	14	19
Leyte	4	80,342	24,381	55,961	37,403	31	15	36,688	22	12	715	113	34	2
Mahaplag	5	49,660	6,507	43,153	33,378	41	20	28,606	46	22	4,772	39	16	14
Matag-ob	4	27,577	3,061	24,516	24,518	73	31	20,761	86	33	3,757	47	18	15
Matalom	5	46,122	10,561	35,561	34,228	37	18	32,686	30	17	1,542	95	30	5
Mc Arthur	5	38,524	18,569	19,954	22,216	92	34	20,490	89	34	1,726	92	29	8
Merida	4	16,670	2,866	13,804	29,142	55	26	26,592	54	26	2,550	69	24	9
Palo	3	83,507	31,912	51,595	52,279	14	9	50,091	10	6	2,188	82	27	4
Palompon	2	87,420	11,257	76,163	58,284	9	5	57,531	7	4	753	112	33	1
Pastrana	5	28,944	7,310	21,634	21,238	98	35	21,550	78	31	(312)	128	38	(1)
San Isidro	4	59,332	5,693	53,639	33,316	43	21	32,487	31	18	829	108	31	2
San Miguel	5	59,498	41,280	18,218	24,150	77	32	21,828	75	30	2,322	76	25	10
Sta. Fe	5	18,667	6,945	11,722	20,106	105	36	19,417	96	38	690	114	35	3
Tabango	4	94,044	11,552	82,492	30,807	49	23	25,855	57	28	4,953	33	12	16
Tabon-Tabon	5	16,976	3,548	13,428	15,098	126	39	15,425	116	39	(327)	129	39	(2)
Tanauan	3	78,172	12,815	65,357	47,630	20	10	41,865	16	9	5,765	27	10	12
Tolosa	5	22,980	9,745	13,235	19,220	108	37	18,649	102	37	571	116	36	3
Tunga	6	23,725	5,300	18,425	13,446	131	40	12,655	131	40	791	109	32	6
Villaba	4	54,661	5,140	49,521	37,052	33	17	31,187	35	19	5,866	26	9	16
Northern Samar		683,551	118,775	564,776	691,543			576,124			115,419			17
Allen	5	22,575	3,919	18,657	23,346	84	14	22,572	72	12	774	111	19	3
Biri	5	15,058	922	14,136	16,426	122	22	15,503	115	20	922	106	18	6
Bobon	5	11,560	3,109	8,451	26,702	66	11	25,488	58	10	1,214	103	17	5
Capul	5	8,611	2,323	6,288	18,294	114	18	17,802	108	18	492	118	20	3
Catarman	2	115,211	6,831	108,379	81,921	4	1	64,047	5	1	17,874	4	2	22
Catubig	4	73,337	5,001	68,335	68,345	7	2	28,704	44	6	39,640	1	1	58
Gamay	4	16,337	5,595	10,742	25,865	70	12	22,898	68	11	2,968	61	11	11
Laoang	2	66,289	6,374	59,915	50,101	16	3	42,927	15	2	7,174	16	4	14
Lapinig	5	8,266	4,651	3,616	17,737	117	20	17,299	110	19	438	119	21	2
Lavezares	4	15,216	6,135	9,081	28,368	57	9	20,952	84	14	7,416	15	3	26
Lope de Vega	4	23,782	1,151	22,630	32,935	44	7	28,110	48	7	4,825	38	7	15
Mapanas	5	12,788	4,186	8,602	22,205	93	16	19,068	98	16	3,138	57	10	14
Mondragon	5	40,439	7,845	32,594	37,831	30	4	31,550	34	4	6,281	20	6	17
Palapag	4	48,288	10,479	37,809	33,989	39	6	27,142	50	9	6,848	19	5	20
Pambujan	4	32,814	8,437	24,376	30,253	51	8	30,163	38	5	90	124	23	0
Rosario	5	11,815	1,809	10,005	16,758	119	21	15,237	117	21	1,521	96	14	9
San Antonio	5	13,198	520	12,679	17,781	116	19	14,566	123	22	3,215	56	9	18
San Isidro	4	48,601	18,239	30,362	34,186	38	5	32,380	32	3	1,807	89	13	5
San Jose	5	10,387	4,938	5,449	19,895	106	17	18,067	107	17	1,828	86	12	9
San Roque	5	18,025	10,937	7,089	27,566	59	10	27,272	49	8	294	122	22	1
San Vicente	5	8,866	1,198	7,668	13,782	130	23	12,548	132	23	1,234	101	16	9
Silvino Lobos	5	49,069	2,192	46,877	24,368	76	13	20,262	93	15	4,107	43	8	17
Victoria	5	13,020	1,983	11,037	22,888	88	15	21,569	77	13	1,319	98	15	6
Samar		778,942	179,322	599,621	739,326			657,654			81,673			11
Almagro	5	14,400	5,507	8,893	18,446	113	20	16,238	113	20	2,208	80	14	12
Basey	2	96,974	32,842	64,132	55,068	11	2	50,442	9	2	4,626	41	7	8
Calbiga	4	26,943	2,888	24,055	38,338	29	6	29,678	40	8	8,660	12	3	23
Catbalogan	1	62,846	17,699	45,147	90,904	3	1	85,226	1	1	5,678	28	5	6
Daram	4	54,562	5,714	48,848	35,841	34	7	29,794	39	7	6,047	23	4	17
Gandara	3	73,203	23,303	49,900	48,557	17	3	46,412	13	3	2,145	83	15	4
Hinabangan	4	38,043	4,547	33,496	34,313	35	8	31,705	33	6	2,608	68	11	8
Jiabong	5	19,545	2,925	16,620	21,034	100	17	21,747	76	15	(712)	130	25	(3)
Marabut	5	13,554	1,693	11,862	22,195	94	16	20,320	92	17	1,875	87	17	8
Matuguinao	5	25,338	8,866	16,472	20,199	104	18	18,205	106	19	1,994	85	16	10
Motiong	5	17,849	1,095	16,755	23,795	81	15	21,488	79	16	2,307	78	13	10
Pagsanhan	5	14,942	5,208	9,734	15,008	127	22	13,889	126	22	1,120	104	20	7
Paranas	3	58,178	4,958	53,220	48,328	18	4	38,262	21	4	10,066	7	1	21
Pinabacdao	5	25,599	4,468	21,131	24,488	74	14	22,765	69	13	1,723	93	18	7
San Jorge	4	10,624	1,291	9,333	26,652	67	12	25,867	56	9	785	110	22	3
San Jose de Buan	4	26,530	1,596	24,934	27,281	62	10	22,643	71	14	4,639	40	6	17
San Sebastian	5	22,799	16,000	6,800	14,484	128	23	13,104	127	23	1,380	97	19	10
Sta. Margarita	4	34,531	2,626	31,904	26,931	65	11	23,456	65	12	3,475	52	9	13
Sta. Rita	3	64,376	4,586	59,790	42,622	25	5	33,260	29	5	9,362	8	2	22
Sto. Nino	5	13,173	6,708	6,465	18,227	115	21	13,904	125	21	4,323	42	8	24
Talalora	5	10,758	1,264	9,494	13,922	129	13	12,971	129	11	952	105	12	7
Tarangnan	4	19,846	15,313	4,533	25,943	69	24	23,462	64	24	2,481	70	21	10
Vilareal	4	19,690	3,230	16,460	27,298	61	9	23,862	63	10	3,436	54	10	13
Zumarraga	5	14,639	4,996	9,644	19,451	107	19	18,956	100	18	495	117	23	3
Southern Leyte		527,489	120,881	406,608	436,207			377,174			59,034			14
Anahawan	5	22,148	7,227	14,921	16,983	118	14	14,640	122	16	2,343	75	11	14
Bontoc	4	39,872	27,602	12,270	31,090	48	3	28,891	42	2	2,199	81	13	7
Hinunangan	4	41,500	4,446	37,055	32,291	47	2	26,903	53	3	5,388	29	3	17
Hinundayan	5	27,095	2,430	24,666	20,982	101	11	20,937	85	9	45	126	18	0
Libagon	5	28,093	7,714	20,379	23,302	86	10	18,329	105	11	4,973	32	5	21
Liloan	4	49,957	15,534	34,424	26,948	64	7	24,539	60	4	2,409	73	10	9
Limasawa	6	19,940	3,696	16,244	11,989	133	18	9,733	133	18	2,256	79	12	19
Macrohon	4	31,011	3,259	27,752	29,336	54	5	22,485	73	6	6,851	18	1	23
Malitbog	4	40,176	9,636	30,540	24,937	72	9	21,435	81	8	3,501	50	7	14
Padre Burgos	5	22,082	4,707	17,375	16,472	121	16	14,716	121	15	1,756	91	15	11
Pintuyan	5	13,048	5,806	7,242	16,696	120	15	14,781	120	14	1,915	86	14	11
San Francisco	5	28,595	1,695	26,900	18,593	111	13	15,137	119	13	3,456	53	8	19
San Juan	5	33,278	6,437	26,841	27,648	58	6	21,444	80	7	6,204	21	2	22
San Ricardo	5	11,093	732	10,361	16,055	123	17	14,472	124	17	1,583	94	16	10
Silago	4	32,584	3,638	28,945	25,006	71	8	20,136	94	10	4,869	37	6	19
St. Bernard	4	38,329	2,398	35,932	47,966	19	1	46,741	12	1	1,225	102	17	3
Sogod	3	36,391	11,924	24,467	29,621	53	4	24,291	62	5	5,330	31	4	18
Tomas Oppus	5	12,297	2,002	10,295	20,291	102	12	17,562	109	12	2,729	66	9	13
REGION 9		3,676,446	942,862	2,733,584	2,473,345			2,243,842			229,503			9
Zamboanga Del Norte		1,161,426	301,981	859,444	953,769			890,907			62,861			7
Baleguian	4	45,526	7,301	38,225	37,518	26	13	39,861	17	8	(2,343)	65	24	(6)
Godod	4	24,675	4,714	19,962	25,225	56	20	23,712	55	20	1,512	46	15	6
Gutalac	3	30,550	22,646	7,903	45,502	15	7	42,452	13	6	3,050	30	8	7
Jose Dalman	4	22,957	4,858	18,099	28,497	47	18	28,856	40	16	(359)	63	23	(1)
Kalawit	4	38,876	3,621	35,255	30,848	43	17	28,708	42	17	2,140	39	12	7
Katipunan	3	44,185	13,503	30,682	42,369	20	8	40,729	16	7	1,640	43	13	4
La Libertad	5	20,813	4,960	15,853	17,337	67	25	14,180	67	25	3,157	29	7	18
Labason	3	39,072	11,543	27,530	39,422	24	11	38,631	20	9	791	54	20	2
Leon B. Postigo	4	27,618	14,652	12,966	33,757	37	15	33,990	28	15	(233)	61	22	(1)
Liloy	3	37,302	9,871	27,431	38,973	25	12	36,705	23	11	2,268	38	11	6
Manuel Roxas	3	49,289	11,362	37,927	47,445	11	5	46,054	6	3	1,391	47	16	3
Manukan	3	73,081	20,895	52,186	40,521	22	9	36,340	24	12	4,181	22	6	10
Mutia	5	16,784	7,356	9,429	19,034	65	24	17,957	66	24	1,077	53	19	6
Piñan	4	40,997	20,010	20,987	25,081	57	21	22,141	57	21	2,940	31	9	12
Polanco	3	34,488	5,380	29,108	40,343	23	10	37,425	21	10	2,918	33	10	7
Rizal	5	13,086	2,114	10,972	22,297	62	22	21,194	61	23	1,103	62	18	5
Salug	4	48,848	3,516	45,332	35,631	32	14	34,052	27	14	1,579	45	14	4
Sergio Osmeña	2	91,577	23,485	68,092	47,312	12	6	35,910	25	13	11,402	4	1	24
Siayan	3	37,408	11,959	25,449	49,321	8	4	44,814	10	5	4,507	19	4	9
Sibuco	Uncl	89,922	3,452	86,470	53,506	6	3	44,946	9	4	8,560	7	3	16
Sindangan	1	96,979	17,256	79,723	79,478	1	1	68,304	2	2	11,174	5	2	14
Siocon	2	116,017	59,084	56,933	72,057	3	2	77,618	1	1	(5,561)	67	25	(8)
Sibutad	5	33,194	6,668	26,526	22,133	63	23	21,842	59	22	291	57	21	1
Sirawai	4	43,217	5,224	37,993	32,949	40	16	28,559	43	18	4,390	21	5	13
Tampilisan	4	44,964	6,551	38,413	27,213	53	19	25,928	49	19	1,285	49	17	5
Zamboanga Del Sur		1,343,449	324,429	1,019,021	875,623			785,796			89,827			10
Aurora	3	94,202	22,084	72,118	55,754	5	2	43,815	12	4	11,940	2	1	21
Bayog	3	99,930	24,149	75,781	42,760	19	5	39,857	18	5	2,903	34	15	7
Dimataling	4	41,621	2,660	38,961	30,112	45	16	30,471	35	9	(358)	62	24	(1)
Dinas	4	40,741	1,398	39,343	33,744	38	11	29,350	38	12	4,394	20	10	13
Dumalinao	4	87,216	39,207	48,009	35,370	33	9	33,735	29	6	1,636	44	19	5
Dumingag	2	41,064	8,927	32,137	48,779	9	3	44,042	11	3	4,736	17	8	10
Guipos	5	19,811	5,832	13,979	23,942	58	22	20,778	63	24	3,164	28	14	13
Josefina	5	28,111	6,278	21,833	18,085	66	26	18,196	65	26	(111)	60	23	(1)
Kumalarang	4	40,736	5,418	35,317	30,275	44	15	27,826	45	15	2,449	36	16	8
Labangan	3	45,039	6,343	38,695	36,773	28	6	33,603	30	7	3,170	27	13	9
Lakewood	4	42,488	8,968	33,520	28,467	48	18	27,296	46	16	1,172	51	21	4
Lapuyan	4	53,822	23,893	29,930	36,426	29	7	31,704	33	8	4,722	18	9	13
Mahayag	3	69,271	31,150	38,121	45,784	14	4	47,287	5	2	(1,503)	64	25	(3)
Margosatubig	4	56,830	5,321	51,510	35,697	31	8	29,052	39	13	6,644	11	4	19
Midsalip	4	52,443	1,323	51,120	32,687	41	13	20,912	62	23	11,775	3	2	36
Molave	2	137,440	47,135	90,305	60,841	4	1	53,145	4	1	7,696	10	3	13
Pitogo	4	24,939	7,480	17,459	27,576	51	19	30,458	36	10	(2,881)	66	26	(10)
Ramon Magsaysay	4	64,490	16,951	47,539	30,944	42	14	27,126	47	17	3,818	24	11	12
San Miguel	4	32,331	10,852	21,479	27,190	54	20	25,353	52	19	1,837	41	18	7
San Pablo	4	54,835	4,486	50,349	29,225	46	17	23,884	54	20	5,341	13	5	18
Sominot	5	16,916	1,560	15,355	22,841	61	25	22,600	56	21	241	58	22	1
Tabina	4	40,120	8,596	31,524	26,633	55	21	25,407	51	18	1,225	50	20	5
Tambulig	4	37,920	13,259	24,661	33,288	39	12	28,169	44	14	5,120	14	6	15
Tigbao	5	32,491	1,850	30,642	23,491	60	24	21,464	60	22	2,027	40	17	9
Tukuran	4	56,898	11,234	45,664	35,125	35	10	30,179	37	11	4,946	15	7	14
Vincenzo Sagun	5	31,746	8,075	23,671	23,814	59	23	20,089	64	25	3,724	25	12	16
Zamboanga Sibugay		1,171,571	316,452	855,119	643,953			567,139			76,814			12
Alicia	4	69,555	22,670	46,885	35,829	30	10	33,012	31	9	2,817	35	10	8
Buug	3	77,564	32,491	45,072	43,137	17	6	36,977	22	7	6,160	12	5	14
Diplahan	4	20,435	4,286	16,148	35,321	34	11	31,201	34	11	4,120	23	7	12
Imelda	4	40,118	10,889	29,230	27,566	52	15	25,785	50	14	1,781	42	12	6
Ipil	1	332,321	44,912	287,409	78,331	2	1	58,355	3	1	19,976	1	1	26
Kabasalan	3	111,756	40,173	71,583	50,885	7	2	42,049	14	4	8,836	6	2	17
Mabuhay	4	38,602	10,162	28,440	27,968	50	14	24,702	53	15	3,265	26	8	12
Malangas	3	54,633	15,743	38,890	36,993	27	9	28,728	41	12	8,265	9	4	22
Naga	3	59,925	12,654	47,271	44,004	16	5	39,158	19	6	4,846	16	6	11
Olutanga	4	43,947	5,586	38,362	28,429	49	13	27,092	48	13	1,337	48	13	5
Payao	4	27,934	5,863	22,071	34,218	36	12	31,820	32	10	2,398	37	11	7
Roseller T. Lim	3	49,104	27,163	21,941	41,630	21	8	40,979	15	5	650	56	15	2
Siay	3	77,003	25,882	51,121	43,009	18	7	34,478	26	8	8,531	8	3	20
Talusan	5	30,354	3,324	27,030	22,107	64	16	21,964	58	16	143	59	16	1
Titay	3	86,572	41,509	45,063	46,448	13	4	45,687	7	2	760	55	14	2
Tungawan	3	51,747	13,145	38,602	48,081	10	3	45,151	8	3	2,929	32	9	6
REGION 10		4,588,503	1,217,001	3,371,501	3,082,643			2,785,404			297,239			10
Bukidnon		2,134,529	517,106	1,617,422	1,152,725			981,323			171,402			15
Baungon	3	66,217	31,283	34,933	45,986	21	13	39,597	24	14	6,389	18	12	14
Damulog	4	44,954	10,138	34,816	32,373	41	19	29,926	42	19	2,448	34	16	8
Dangcagan	5	40,732	12,036	28,696	40,932	28	16	39,930	22	12	1,002	52	19	2
Don Carlos	2	117,399	16,077	101,322	64,446	8	8	47,963	14	10	16,483	3	2	26
Impasug-ong	1	85,044	4,311	80,733	74,922	6	6	72,532	4	4	2,391	35	17	3
Kadingilan	4	90,169	14,550	75,618	36,865	30	17	31,964	36	17	4,901	23	15	13
Kalilangan	3	81,202	42,377	38,826	45,874	23	14	37,011	27	15	8,863	10	9	19
Kibawe	3	99,638	22,365	77,272	45,345	26	15	39,716	23	13	5,629	21	14	12
Kitaotao	2	93,621	12,249	81,372	59,436	11	10	53,549	8	7	5,887	19	13	10
Lantapan	3	148,620	55,514	93,107	53,786	14	11	43,090	20	11	10,695	7	6	20
Libona	3	109,424	21,452	87,972	77,956	4	4	50,402	11	9	27,554	1	1	35
Manolo Fortich	1	187,706	67,853	119,853	85,922	2	2	77,434	2	2	8,488	11	9	10
Malitbog	3	130,514	9,466	121,048	46,189	20	12	36,083	28	16	10,106	9	7	22
Maramag	1	142,789	25,012	117,777	85,503	3	3	74,275	3	3	11,228	6	5	13
Pangantucan	2	142,988	58,536	84,451	62,963	9	9	54,780	7	6	8,183	13	11	13
Quezon	1	244,679	52,139	192,540	117,368	1	1	108,945	1	1	8,422	12	10	7
San Fernando	2	134,229	16,088	118,141	67,028	7	7	50,853	10	8	16,175	4	3	24
Sumilao	4	34,305	9,484	24,821	33,372	37	18	31,394	38	18	1,978	37	18	6
Talakag	1	140,300	36,174	104,126	76,458	5	5	61,880	5	5	14,578	5	4	19
Camiguin		101,583	32,057	69,526	114,171			108,752			5,419			5
Catarman	5	35,757	16,017	19,740	21,846	66	2	20,737	65	2	1,110	48	3	5
Guinsiliban	5	5,663	2,180	3,484	13,403	84	5	12,260	83	5	1,143	47	2	9
Mahinog	5	27,672	3,247	24,424	20,260	69	3	19,421	66	3	838	54	4	4
Mambajao	3	23,144	7,937	15,207	41,167	27	1	38,651	26	1	2,515	33	1	6
Sagay	5	9,346	2,676	6,671	17,496	77	4	17,683	73	4	(187)	78	5	(1)
Lanao Del Norte		647,220	150,885	496,335	630,551			602,324			28,227			4
Bacolod	5	17,361	6,113	11,248	25,224	58	12	24,631	55	12	593	65	15	2
Balo-i	4	79,354	1,894	77,460	38,541	29	4	31,394	39	6	7,147	15	1	19
Baroy	4	30,139	4,620	25,519	27,070	51	9	25,432	52	10	1,638	43	7	6
Kapatagan	3	64,792	26,367	38,425	47,832	19	3	43,867	19	3	3,965	24	2	8
Kauswagan	5	32,350	19,663	12,687	22,830	63	14	22,398	61	14	432	68	17	2
Kolambugan	4	43,767	9,524	34,243	33,262	38	7	31,370	40	7	1,892	38	6	6
Lala	3	43,345	7,146	36,198	52,588	15	1	49,827	12	1	2,761	32	5	5
Linamon	5	36,403	3,247	33,155	24,389	59	13	23,300	59	13	1,089	50	8	4
Maigo	5	32,027	26,289	5,738	29,864	46	8	29,264	43	9	599	64	14	2
Matungao	5	4,748	118	4,631	17,504	76	21	16,436	78	22	1,068	51	9	6
Munai	5	56,512	17,516	38,996	25,859	56	11	25,044	54	11	814	55	11	3
Nunungan	4	45,069	2,306	42,763	35,245	32	5	31,466	37	5	3,778	27	4	11
Pantao-Ragat	5	7,358	3,503	3,855	22,224	64	15	22,111	63	15	113	72	18	1
Pantar	5	10,161	2,917	7,244	18,950	74	20	18,934	70	18	15	76	20	0
Poona-Piagapo	5	13,016	443	12,573	26,939	52	10	31,061	41	8	(4,122)	84	22	(15)
R. Magsaysay	5	11,224	4,186	7,038	21,990	65	16	21,239	64	16	751	57	12	3
Salvador	5	20,884	452	20,432	21,211	67	17	17,425	74	20	3,786	26	3	18
Sapad	5	10,916	3,639	7,277	19,050	72	19	18,495	71	19	555	67	16	3
S.N. Dimaporo	4	14,722	1,521	13,200	34,680	33	6	33,784	29	4	896	53	10	3
Tagoloan	5	3,077	804	2,273	16,268	79	22	16,602	76	21	(334)	80	21	(2)
Tangkal	5	18,706	3,817	14,890	19,301	71	18	19,264	67	17	38	74	19	0
Tubod	3	51,290	4,800	46,491	49,734	17	2	48,983	13	2	751	58	13	2
Misamis Occidental		585,810	187,487	398,323	379,219			355,569			23,651			6
Aloran	4	32,921	6,097	26,824	30,635	44	5	28,836	44	5	1,799	41	5	6
Baliangao	5	22,699	6,366	16,333	20,800	68	12	19,017	68	11	1,782	42	6	9
Bonifacio	4	37,277	21,707	15,570	32,586	40	4	33,390	31	2	(804)	81	13	(2)
Calamba	4	56,119	28,721	27,398	28,093	48	7	27,407	48	8	686	61	8	2
Clarin	4	43,315	11,575	31,740	32,863	39	3	33,082	33	4	(219)	79	12	(1)
Concepcion		27,004	6,528	20,475	15,189	81	14	9,390	84	14	5,799	20	2	38
Don Victoriano	4	39,791	1,810	37,982	26,230	54	10	24,406	56	9	1,824	40	4	7
Jimenez	4	53,158	12,598	40,560	34,354	34	2	33,255	32	3	1,099	49	7	3
Lopez Jaena	4	53,894	13,416	40,478	26,372	53	9	28,294	45	6	(1,921)	83	14	(7)
Panaon	5	55,738	16,589	39,148	15,905	80	13	15,477	80	13	428	69	10	3
Plaridel	4	71,903	39,351	32,552	35,631	31	1	33,406	30	1	2,225	38	3	6
Sapang Dalaga	5	36,335	13,134	23,201	29,109	47	6	18,997	69	12	10,112	8	1	35
Sinacaban	5	23,634	2,591	21,043	23,570	61	11	22,955	60	10	614	63	9	3
Tudela	4	32,022	7,003	25,020	27,882	49	6	27,656	47	7	226	71	11	1
Misamis Oriental		1,119,361	329,466	789,895	805,976			737,436			68,541			9
Alubijd	4	31,900	3,657	28,243	30,437	45	13	27,664	46	11	2,772	31	10	9
Balingasag	3	56,953	9,447	47,506	48,780	18	5	45,250	17	5	3,529	28	7	7
Balingoan	5	21,011	5,946	15,065	19,002	73	20	18,412	72	19	590	66	19	3
Binuangan	6	23,637	15,782	7,854	13,906	83	24	14,752	82	24	(846)	82	24	(6)
Claveria	2	90,908	27,116	63,792	58,576	13	3	54,788	6	1	3,788	25	6	6
El Salvador	3	68,105	35,026	33,078	45,895	22	6	45,140	18	6	755	56	15	2
Gitagum	5	40,210	2,623	37,586	19,370	70	19	16,126	79	22	3,244	30	9	17
Initao	4	47,129	14,384	32,745	33,815	35	9	31,986	35	10	1,829	39	11	5
Jasaan	3	41,786	8,402	33,384	52,311	16	4	45,867	15	3	6,444	17	4	12
Kinoguitan	5	28,809	18,592	10,217	17,826	75	21	16,466	77	21	1,359	46	14	8
Lagonglong	5	49,164	23,039	26,125	23,081	62	18	22,313	62	18	748	59	16	3
Laguindingan	5	14,511	5,476	9,036	23,885	60	17	23,798	58	17	67	73	21	0
Libertad	5	17,449	1,745	15,705	17,454	78	22	17,146	75	20	307	70	20	2
Lugait	4	125,323	20,401	104,922	59,425	12	2	42,668	21	7	16,757	2	1	28
Magsaysay	4	42,795	2,448	40,347	30,711	43	12	27,375	49	12	3,336	29	8	11
Manticao	4	48,578	1,922	46,656	32,118	42	11	26,859	50	13	5,260	22	5	16
Medina	4	41,474	8,135	33,339	33,475	38	10	31,994	34	9	1,480	45	13	4
Naawan	5	43,657	17,904	25,753	25,627	57	16	24,094	57	16	1,533	44	12	6
Opol	4	85,054	36,938	48,115	45,560	25	8	39,012	25	8	6,548	16	3	14
Salay	5	38,388	15,217	23,171	25,970	55	15	25,341	53	15	629	62	18	2
Sugbong Cogon	5	29,722	18,113	11,609	14,866	82	23	14,942	81	23	(76)	77	23	(1)
Tagoloan	3	69,917	20,684	49,233	60,802	10	1	53,081	9	2	7,721	14	2	13
Talisayan	4	25,851	2,725	23,126	27,436	60	14	26,694	51	14	742	60	17	3
Villanueva	4	37,031	13,742	23,289	45,689	24	7	45,667	16	4	23	75	22	0

Difference between totals and sum of components is due to rounding off
Rank
1-Regionwide Ranking
2-Provincewide Ranking

(PDI-August 25, 2006)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON AUDIT
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City

FINANCIAL REPORTS OF MUNICIPALITIES
REGIONS 11, 12, 13 AND ARMM
Fiscal Year 2005

(in thousand pesos)

Local Government Units	Class	Balance Sheet			Statement of Income and Expenses									
		Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Total Equity	Total Income	Rank		Total Expenses	Rank		Net Income (Net Loss)	Rank		% of Net Income (Net Loss) to Total Income
						1	2		1	2		1	2	
REGION 11		3,826,600	1,066,806	2,759,794	2,566,223			2,308,527			257,696			10
Compostela Valley		1,240,196	293,201	946,996	715,071			644,426			70,646			10
Compostela	1	159,196	32,944	126,252	68,839	13	6	55,246	16	7	13,593	4	1	20
Laak	1	100,610	19,174	81,436	75,466	10	3	72,596	9	2	2,870	32	10	4
Mabini	3	68,327	20,826	47,502	47,242	29	9	45,988	24	9	1,254	41	11	3
Maco	1	86,570	14,119	72,452	71,150	11	4	65,778	11	4	5,372	21	7	8
Maragusan	2	59,105	8,573	50,532	56,511	18	8	50,951	18	8	5,560	19	5	10
Mawab	3	98,933	30,435	68,498	41,863	35	11	32,697	40	11	9,165	8	3	22
Monkayo	1	277,531	61,449	216,082	102,688	3	1	97,983	2	1	4,705	24	8	5
Montevista	3	64,024	15,355	48,668	43,785	34	10	38,348	34	10	5,437	20	6	12
Nabunturan	1	96,844	22,857	73,987	70,334	12	5	61,707	12	5	8,627	10	4	12
New Bataan	2	103,135	50,939	52,196	59,280	17	7	56,135	14	6	3,145	30	9	5
Pantukan	1	125,922	16,530	109,392	77,914	9	2	66,996	10	3	10,918	7	2	14
Davao Del Norte		709,084	143,071	566,013	443,624			393,023			50,601			11
Asuncion	2	65,466	14,028	51,437	52,225	21	4	50,582	19	4	1,643	39	8	3
Carmen	2	55,152	8,120	47,032	61,563	16	3	55,646	15	3	5,917	16	4	10
Dujali	4	43,486	4,250	39,236	26,174	43	8	24,175	42	7	1,999	36	7	8
Kapalong	1	227,392	40,741	186,651	85,136	6	2	81,543	5	2	3,593	27	6	4
New Corella	2	75,235	10,583	64,652	50,985	23	5	39,795	31	5	11,191	6	2	22
San Isidro	Uncl	39,702	17,302	22,400	32,716	41	7	18,967	44	8	13,749	3	1	42
Sto. Tomas	1	158,875	34,850	124,025	90,822	4	1	82,594	4	1	8,228	11	3	9
Talaingod	3	43,776	13,197	30,579	44,003	32	6	39,721	32	6	4,281	25	5	10
Davao Del Sur		1,121,349	366,005	755,344	754,612			670,440			84,172			11
Bansalan	2	79,621	17,722	61,899	52,863	20	5	44,103	28	8	8,760	9	3	17
Don Marcelino	3	62,902	17,438	45,464	41,002	36	11	38,213	35	10	2,789	34	10	7
Hagonoy	3	42,399	11,793	30,606	47,775	28	8	46,801	22	5	974	42	13	2
Jose Abad Santos	1	112,329	34,932	77,398	64,576	15	4	58,812	13	3	5,764	17	5	9
Kiblawan	2	72,064	17,055	55,009	50,039	26	6	45,068	25	7	4,971	22	6	10
Magsaysay	3	45,786	19,551	26,234	47,883	27	7	46,095	23	6	1,788	37	12	4
Malalag	3	70,693	20,689	50,003	43,854	33	10	36,463	36	11	7,391	13	4	17
Malita	1	272,746	114,326	158,420	114,615	2	1	96,562	3	1	18,053	2	2	16
Matanao	3	79,600	28,374	51,226	67,845	14	3	49,357	20	4	18,488	1	1	27
Padada	4	42,388	2,533	39,854	37,544	38	12	35,109	37	12	2,435	35	11	6
Santa Cruz	1	124,960	55,321	69,640	82,558	7	2	78,336	7	2	4,222	26	8	5
Santa Maria	3	67,278	12,560	54,718	45,535	31	9	40,568	30	9	4,966	23	7	11
Sarangani	5	30,597	5,775	24,822	24,076	44	14	21,195	43	14	2,881	31	9	12
Sulop	4	17,987	7,937	10,050	34,448	40	13	33,758	39	13	690	43	14	2
Davao Oriental		755,971	264,529	491,441	652,916			600,638			52,278			8
Baganga	1	74,151	5,779	68,371	78,150	8	3	76,740	8	3	1,410	40	10	2
Banay-Banay	2	75,994	21,958	54,035	50,051	25	7	44,453	27	7	5,598	18	5	11
Boston	4	59,627	20,079	39,547	30,803	42	11	24,235	41	11	6,568	15	4	21
Caraga	2	69,375	25,603	43,772	54,213	19	4	51,348	17	4	2,865	33	8	5
Cateel	3	32,797	5,785	27,013	46,739	30	8	43,163	29	8	3,576	28	6	8
Gov. Generoso	3	37,837	1,799	36,038	51,618	22	5	44,553	26	6	7,065	14	3	14
Lupon	1	117,220	28,050	89,170	89,330	5	2	81,295	6	2	8,036	12	2	9
Manay	2	62,451	33,175	29,276	50,972	24	6	47,677	21	5	3,296	29	7	6
Mati	1	159,736	103,255	56,481	125,699	1	1	113,952	1	1	11,747	5	1	9
San Isidro	3	37,135	12,819	24,316	40,537	37	9	38,768	33	9	1,768	38	9	4
Tarragona	4	29,649	6,227	23,422	34,803	39	10	34,453	38	10	349	44	11	1
REGION 12		3,902,682	957,694	2,944,988	2,872,418			2,532,465			339,953			12
North Cotabato		1,585,073	426,084	1,158,989	1,099,812			948,318			151,494			14
Alamada	1	124,498	24,831	99,667	68,122	16	8	58,179	17	7	9,943	9	3	15
Aleosan	4	38,889	9,290	29,599	33,816	45	17	31,740	44	17	2,075	40	17	6
Antipas	3	45,625	10,730	34,895	45,776	38	16	41,699	39	16	4,077	29	14	9
Arakan	2	62,572	27,502	35,070	57,960	27	11	49,087	27	10	8,873	12	6	15
Banisilan	2	35,279	4,510	30,769	51,745	33	14	47,779	32	14	3,966	32	16	8
Carmen	1	172,197	12,984	159,212	89,268	4	2	61,489	15	6	27,779	2	1	31
Kabacan	1	56,161	12,277	43,883	76,493	10	3	67,077	11	4	9,417	11	5	12
Libungan	3	51,024	27,694	23,330	52,380	32	13	48,353	29	12	4,026	30	15	8
Magpet	1	98,423	31,372	67,051	64,083	21	10	57,078	20	9	7,005	17	11	11
Makilala	1	168,687	64,722	103,965	70,069	14	6	62,553	14	5	7,516	15	9	11
Matalam	1	160,715	12,163	148,552	68,774	15	7	47,837	30	13	20,937	4	2	30
Midsayap	1	129,382	26,638	102,744	99,232	2	1	89,659	2	1	9,573	10	4	10
M'lang	1	109,785	39,477	70,309	75,567	12	5	67,092	10	3	8,475	14	8	11
Pigcawayan	2	75,948	28,221	47,727	55,333	28	12	48,577	28	11	6,756	18	12	12
Pikit	1	96,897	48,513	48,384	76,414	11	4	69,153	7	2	7,261	16	10	10
Pres. Roxas	2	86,009	16,498	69,511	65,961	20	9	57,452	19	8	8,509	13	7	13
Tulunan	3	72,981	28,661	44,321	48,818	36	15	43,512	36	15	5,307	25	13	11
Sarangani		679,066	65,704	613,362	492,692			427,756			64,936			13
Alabel	1	84,530	6,913	77,617	80,431	8	3	68,200	8	2	12,231	5	2	15
Glan	1	172,844	7,803	165,042	85,611	6	2	64,171	13	3	21,440	3	1	25
Kiamba	2	71,975	22,359	49,616	54,566	29	6	54,601	24	5	(35)	44	7	0
Maasim	3	70,154	9,104	61,050	63,627	22	5	52,792	26	6	10,836	8	4	17
Maitum	3	87,795	5,386	82,408	45,910	37	7	43,020	37	7	2,891	38	6	6
Malapatan	1	94,329	10,470	83,859	67,532	18	4	55,505	22	4	12,027	6	3	18
Malungon	1	97,438	3,668	93,771	95,015	3	1	89,468	3	1	5,547	22	5	6
South Cotabato		841,716	253,240	588,475	657,630			579,617			78,013			12
Banga	1	43,676	15,850	27,826	62,596	23	5	61,363	16	5	1,233	42	10	2
Lake Sebu	1	41,938	11,870	30,067	67,453	19	4	64,305	12	4	3,149	35	7	5
Norala	3	65,782	26,534	39,249	40,479	40	8	39,232	40	8	1,247	41	9	3
Polomolok	1	295,534	71,040	224,494	142,264	1	1	98,287	1	1	43,976	1	1	31
Sto. Niño	4	63,033	18,610	44,423	37,405	43	9	33,643	43	9	3,762	33	6	10
Surallah	1	78,290	31,909	46,381	79,659	9	3	75,680	6	3	3,979	31	5	5
Tampakan	3	65,763	23,868	41,895	49,594	35	7	46,535	34	7	3,058	36	8	6
Tantangan	4	74,494	16,155	58,339	34,375	44	10	28,290	45	10	6,085	20	3	18
T'Boli	1	49,968	20,185	29,783	82,752	7	2	77,394	5	2	5,358	24	4	6
Tupi	2	63,238	17,219	46,018	61,052	25	6	54,887	23	6	6,165	19	2	10
Sultan Kudarat		796,827	212,665	584,161	622,283			576,773			45,510			7
Bagumbayan	1	97,395	4,514	92,881	68,067	17	3	56,589	21	4	11,478	7	1	17
Columbio	2	80,743	12,953	67,791	59,581	26	5	54,208	25	5	5,373	23	3	9
Esperanza	2	71,157	6,337	64,819	52,674	30	6	47,408	33	7	5,266	26	4	10
Isulan	1	97,283	24,651	72,632	87,204	5	1	87,343	4	1	(139)	45	11	0
Kalamansig	1	49,944	15,334	34,610	62,428	24	4	57,871	18	3	4,557	28	6	7
Lambayong	3	89,871	57,467	32,404	49,615	34	8	43,741	35	8	5,873	21	2	12
Lebak	1	81,685	17,980	63,705	70,952	13	2	68,056	9	2	2,896	37	8	4
Lutayan	3	56,737	22,660	34,077	43,008	39	9	42,769	38	9	239	43	10	1
Palimbang	2	108,804	23,484	85,320	52,480	31	7	47,798	31	6	4,682	27	5	9
Pres Quirino	4	23,646	4,989	18,658	37,758	42	11	35,628	41	10	2,130	39	9	6
Sen. Ninoy Aquino	3	39,562	22,297	17,265	38,517	41	10	35,361	42	11	3,156	34	7	8
REGION 13		3,580,254	869,023	2,711,231	2,566,121			2,386,995			179,127			7
Agusan Del Norte		393,306	81,829	311,477	356,943			329,897			27,046			8
Buenavista	2	78,487	6,737	71,749	71,180	7	1	60,397	8	1	10,784	3	1	15
Carmen	4	25,153	4,631	20,522	28,553	39	7	27,081	38	6	1,472	36	6	5
Jabonga	4	29,043	5,885	23,158	33,693	28	4	32,724	26	4	969	44	7	3
Kitcharao	4	16,950	3,174	13,776	26,839	43	8	25,185	43	8	1,654	33	5	6
Las Nieves	3	40,315	8,189	32,125	46,351	16	2	42,954	19	2	3,397	18	3	7
Magallanes	4	38,571	17,333	21,238	31,157	30	5	30,661	30	5	496	52	9	2
Nasipit	3	61,218	20,929	40,289	42,315	21	3	41,617	21	3	698	47	8	2
R.T. Romualdez	5	24,715	5,691	19,024	21,635	54	10	18,904	57	10	2,730	26	4	13
Santiago	4	57,866	2,925	54,941	29,275	35	6	24,474	45	9	4,800	12	2	16
Tubay	4	20,988	6,334	14,654	25,946	46	9	25,901	41	7	46	63	10	0
Agusan Del Sur		1,543,293	339,191	1,204,102	992,386			912,486			79,899			8
Bayugan	1	193,666	23,624	170,043	107,732	2	2	89,314	2	2	18,417	1	1	17
Bunawan	3	106,482	18,809	87,672	68,251	9	8	59,571	10	9	8,680	6	4	13
Esperanza	1	124,686	10,817	113,869	115,965	1	1	110,616	1	1	5,349	8	5	5
La Paz	1	112,001	1,568	110,432	84,399	4	4	72,989	6	6	11,410	2	2	14
Loreto	1	109,438	19,020	90,418	86,085	3	3	85,525	3	3	560	40	13	1
Prosperidad	2	176,393	31,473	144,920	77,423	6	6	74,034	4	4	3,389	19	10	4
Rosario	3	57,437	18,434	39,002	54,627	12	10	54,958	12	10	(331)	64	14	(1)
San Francisco	1	164,746	41,405	123,341	82,278	5	5	73,019	5	5	9,260	4	3	11
San Luis	3	61,783	32,196	29,587	64,433	10	9	59,996	9	8	4,437	14	9	7
Santa Josefa	4	66,056	26,590	39,466	37,012	20	14	31,805	27	14	5,207	9	6	14
Sibagat	2	121,756	14,471	107,284	51,738	13	11	47,169	13	11	4,569	13	8	9
Talacogon	3	47,831	16,781	31,049	47,382	15	12	44,383	16	12	2,999	24	11	6
Trento	2	80,860	52,688	28,172	69,838	8	7	64,761	7	7	5,076	10	7	7
Veruela	3	120,159	31,313	88,846	45,222	17	13	44,346	17	13	876	45	12	2
Surigao Del Norte		756,956	139,182	617,774	585,894			537,595			48,299			8
Alegria	5	14,366	6,608	7,758	16,851	62	20	15,822	62	20	1,029	42	16	6
Bacuag	6	16,582	4,758	11,824	21,048	57	16	18,127	59	18	2,922	25	8	14
Basilisa	4	31,390	2,741	28,649	27,318	41	6	23,539	46	8	3,778	16	4	14
Burgos	6	13,058	3,256	9,803	12,287	68	26	12,153	68	26	133	61	22	1
Cagdianao	4	58,532	1,323	57,210	34,521	27	2	30,870	29	2	3,651	17	5	11
Claver	4	51,993	2,035	49,957	39,064	23	1	33,147	25	1	5,916	7	2	15
Dapa	4	44,373	8,493	35,880	26,002	45	8	21,162	52	12	4,839	11	3	19
Del Carmen	5	39,102	11,475	27,627	28,898	38	5	26,606	39	5	2,293	29	11	8
Dinagat	5	52,317	7,288	45,030	29,031	36	4	19,782	64	14	9,249	5	1	32
General Luna	5	50,604	6,179	44,425	19,816	58	17	19,352	55	15	465	53	18	2
Gigaquit	4	13,441	2,404	11,037	24,330	48	10	24,694	44	7	(364)	65	24	(1)
Libjo	4	23,621	3,102	20,518	23,119	51	12	19,880	53	13	3,239	20	6	14
Loreto	4	46,691	21,593	25,098	23,759	50	11	27,237	37	4	(3,478)	68	26	(15)
Mainit	4	41,062	6,768	34,295	29,498	33	3	27,940	33	3	1,558	34	12	5
Malimono	5	29,445	7,675	21,770	21,507	55	14	18,365	58	17	3,141	23	7	15
Pilar	5	18,399	3,520	14,879	17,400	61	19	14,791	64	22	2,609	28	10	15
Placer	4	41,723	4,810	36,914	27,268	42	7	26,049	40	6	1,220	40	14	4
San Benito	5	8,495	3,953	4,542	14,034	67	25	13,858	66	24	176	58	21	1
San Francisco	5	5,726	1,634	4,091	18,528	60	18	18,986	56	16	(458)	66	25	(2)
San Isidro	5	20,117	8,237	11,880	14,613	66	24	14,418	65	23	194	57	20	1
San Jose	4	48,045	2,380	45,665	21,256	56	15	21,170	51	11	86	62	23	0
Santa Monica	5	23,624	2,873	20,751	16,534	64	22	15,255	63	21	1,279	39	13	8
Sison	5	7,405	1,214	6,191	21,863	53	13	21,432	50	10	430	54	19	2
Socorro	4	27,044	11,689	15,356	25,699	47	9	22,978	48	9	2,721	27	9	11
Tubajon	5	15,140	2,696	12,443	16,676	63	21	16,159	61	19	517	50	17	3
Tubod	5	14,661	479	14,182	14,976	65	23	13,823	67	25	1,153	41	15	8
Surigao Del Sur		886,699	308,822	577,877	630,898			607,016			23,882			4
Barobo	3	100,419	71,212	29,208	40,661	22	6	38,539	22	6	2,123	31	5	5
Bayabas	5	17,371	3,032	14,339	19,069	59	18	17,522	60	18	1,546	35	7	8
Cagwait	4	55,267	26,411	28,856	29,747	32	11	27,473	36	14	2,274	30	4	8
Cantilan	3	133,666	11,363	122,303	43,127	20	5	41,705	20	5	1,422	37	8	3
Carmen	5	11,013	2,501	8,513	22,580	52	17	22,356	49	17	224	55	14	1
Carrascal	4	24,234	7,243	16,991	28,979	37	13	27,622	35	13	1,357	38	9	5
Cortes	5	20,706	4,173	16,533	24,005	49	16	23,195	47	16	810	46	11	3
Hinatuan	3	85,390	24,001	61,389	44,240	18	3	44,043	18	4	196	56	15	0
Lanuza	4	24,411	17,088	7,323	28,372	40	14	27,859	34	12	513	51	13	2
Lianga	4	23,251	12,667	10,584	31,073	31	10	30,417	31	10	656	48	12	2
Lingig	4	30,441	19,496	10,945	37,303	25	8	34,121	24	8	3,182	22	3	9
Madrid	4	11,641	2,161	9,480	26,014	44	15	25,855	42	15	159	59	16	1
Marihatag	4	42,754	13,422	29,332	33,224	29	9	31,501	28	9	1,724	32	6	5
San Agustin	4	39,515	12,880	26,635	29,425	34	12	29,274	32	11	151	60	17	1
San Miguel	2	72,758	14,563	58,195	50,137	14	2	46,941	14	2	3,196	21	2	6
Tagbina	3	73,990	23,864	50,125	44,112	19	4	44,809	15	3	(697)	67	18	(2)
Tago	3	36,052	7,258	28,794	37,785	24	7	36,804	23	7	980	43	10	3
Tandag	2	83,819	35,489	48,331	61,044	11	1	56,980	11	1	4,065	15	1	7
ARMM		2,054,224	436,998	1,617,227	3,053,790			2,922,199			131,590			4
Basilan		357,528	109,297	248,230	295,359			269,201			26,158			9
Lamitan	2	80,431	13,128	67,303	57,032	8	3	51,013	11	3	6,018	8	2	11
Lantawan	4	41,571	16,599	24,972	36,918	31	5	36,103	31	5	812	33	4	2
Maluso	4	40,985	32,085	8,899	31,111	41	6	30,476	39	6	635	38	6	2
Sumisip	3	84,658	8,877	75,781	58,693	6	2	57,956	6	1	737	36	5	1
Tipo-Tipo	3	58,172	6,226	51,946	58,991	5	1	42,632	20	4	16,359	1	1	28
Tuburan	3	51,712	32,382	19,329	52,614	11	4	51,017	10	2	1,597	24	3	3
Maguindanao		337,677	160,765	176,913	628,589			594,538			34,051			5
Ampatuan	4	37,982	24,184	13,798	29,982	46	7	29,098	44	8	884	31	9	3
Barira	5	18,797	3,797	15,000	28,122	51	8	27,984	49	9	137	53	15	0
Datu Montawal	Uncl	11,310	3,179	8,131	23,159	72	13	22,326	72	13	834	32	10	4
Datu Abdullah Sangki	Uncl	4,191	972	3,219	25,570	62	12	24,581	67	12	989	30	8	4
Datu Piang	3	19,844	15,593	4,251	45,187	19	4	45,914	14	4	(727)	84	18	(2)
Datu Sinsuat	2	30,997	18,867	12,129	73,840	1	1	67,258	1	1	6,583	7	2	9
Datu Saudi Ampatuan	Uncl	5,109	875	4,234	27,040	54	9	25,630	59	11	1,410	25	7	5
Datu Unsay	Uncl	11,703	5,310	6,393	20,874	78	16	15,486	85	18	5,388	11	4	26
Malanog	5	21,839	19,948	1,891	26,042	60	11	29,971	42	7	(3,930)	91	19	(15)
Pagalungan	1	28,093	8,644	19,449	57,967	7	3	58,444	5	3	(476)	80	17	(1)
Paglat	Uncl	3,273	969	2,304	14,596	87	19	12,381	89	19	2,215	19	6	15
Rajah Buayan	Uncl	1,093	355	739	19,159	83	18	18,420	80	15	739	35	11	4
Shariff Aguak	3	40,914	22,378	18,537	44,590	20	5	44,133	17	5	456	43	13	1
Sultan Kudarat	1	56,506	18,613	37,893	72,047	3	2	62,211	3	2	9,835	4	1	14
South Upi	4	14,493	7,781	6,712	30,389	45	6	30,088	41	6	301	48	14	1
Sultan sa Barongis	4	8,829	3,951	4,878	26,705	55	10	26,842	52	10	(137)	72	16	(1)
Sultan Mastura	Uncl	8,930	2,249	6,681	22,186	75	14	16,597	82	17	5,588	9	3	25
Talayan	4th	6,021	664	5,357	21,397	77	15	18,056	81	16	3,341	16	5	16
Talitay	Uncl	7,752	2,435	5,317	19,738	80	17	19,116	77	14	622	39	12	3
Lanao Del Sur		747,143	53,171	693,972	1,155,201			1,126,806			28,394			2
Bacolod Kalawi	5	25,956	5,318	20,638	37,362	30	9	36,949	30	9	412	45	10	1
Balabagan	4	13,503	542	12,961	30,705	43	16	31,554	38	14	(849)	85	35	(3)
Balindong	4	8,324	811	7,513	32,382	38	14	24,923	64	27	7,459	6	2	23
Bayang	5	18,685	149	18,536	24,490	68	30	25,069	62	26	(579)	82	33	(2)
Binidayan	5	17,178	398	16,780	25,274	64	27	25,404	61	25	(130)	70	25	(1)
Buadiposo Buntong	5	15,792	1,984	13,808	23,746	70	32	23,463	68	30	283	49	13	1
Bubong	4	47,367	2,613	44,753	50,412	13	2	39,013	27	7	11,400	2	1	23
Bumbaran	4	21,228	3,631	17,597	43,496	23	4	43,794	19	3	(298)	76	30	(1)
Butig	Uncl	2,432	-	2,432	22,910	73	34	22,597	71	33	313	47	12	1
Calanogas	5	9,586	363	9,224	15,473	86	37	15,422	86	37	51	58	17	0
Ditsa-an Ramain	4	17,450	2,248	15,201	33,548	34	11	28,107	48	19	5,441	10	3	16
Ganassi	5	11,417	386	11,032	27,978	52	20	28,258	47	18	(280)	75	29	(1)
Kapai	4	16,998	698	16,299	35,368	32	10	33,412	34	11	1,956	21	6	6
Kapatagan	5	31,940	1,080	30,860	25,067	65	28	24,750	66	29	318	46	11	1
Lumba Bayabao	4	33,251	1,314	31,937	46,199	17	3	46,348	13	2	(149)	73	27	0
Lumbaca Unayan	Uncl	2,631	171	2,460	12,338	90	38	12,258	90	38	80	55	15	1
Lumbatan	5	19,639	4,352	15,287	19,816	79	35	18,511	79	35	1,305	26	8	7
Lumbayanague	Uncl	29,182	5,978	23,203	28,276	49	19	26,544	54	22	1,732	23	7	6
Madalum	4	31,224	159	31,066	37,673	29	8	37,657	29	8	17	63	20	0
Madamba	5	5,915	121	5,793	26,526	56	22	26,657	53	21	(131)	71	26	0
Maguing	3	20,771	753	20,018	42,064	25	5	42,054	21	4	11	64	21	0
Malabang	4	41,762	5,687	36,075	40,057	26	6	40,560	24	5	(503)	81	32	(1)
Marantao	3	24,733	851	23,883	39,349	28	7	40,004	25	6	(655)	83	34	(2)
Marogong	4	17,516	179	17,338	26,124	59	24	27,761	51	20	(1,637)	89	38	(6)
Masiu	Uncl	18,332	5,767	12,565	23,236	71	33	23,226	69	31	10	65	22	0
Mulondo	4	18,238	128	18,110	30,544	44	17	30,291	40	15	253	51	14	1
Pagayawan	5	12,002	150	11,852	24,454	69	31	24,768	65	28	(314)	78	31	(1)
Piagapo	4	14,380	1,790	12,590	33,508	36	13	32,790	35	12	717	37	9	2
Poona Bayabao	5	11,612	555	11,057	28,488	48	18	28,427	45	16	60	57	16	0
Pualas	5	9,146	1	9,145	5,663	91	39	5,623	91	39	40	60	18	1
Saguiaran	4	26,108	728	25,379	33,509	35	12	34,788	32	10	(1,279)	88	37	(4)
Sultan Dumalondong	Uncl	4,005	28	3,977	16,033	85	36	16,080	83	36	(47)	67	23	0
Sultan Gumander	4	13,656	378	13,278	25,771	61	25	25,830	58	23	(60)	68	24	0
Tagoloan	5	14,660	569	14,091	26,303	58	23	21,042	74	34	5,261	12	4	20
Tamparan	5	15,169	298	14,871	25,031	67	29	22,866	70	32	2,166	20	5	9
Taraka	4	15,146	83	15,062	27,415	53	21	28,282	46	17	(867)	86	36	(3)
Tubaran	4	24,924	208	24,716	31,333	40	15	31,560	37	13	(227)	74	28	(1)
Tugaya	4	12,469	-	12,469	25,500	63	26	25,483	60	24	18	62	19	0
Wao	Uncl	52,816	2,700	50,116	51,781	12	1	54,683	8	1	(2,902)	90	39	(6)
Sulu		432,639	77,938	354,701	562,009			540,425			21,583			4
Hadji P. Tahil	5	9,263	1,093	8,170	12,950	89	17	12,511	88	17	439	44	9	3
Indanan	3	31,779	7,578	24,201	30,678	27	6	30,586	26	5	93	54	12	0
Jolo	2	63,989	12,447	51,542	72,195	2	1	62,123	4	1	10,072	3	1	14
J. Caluang	5	10,974	474	10,500	21,975	76	13	20,939	75	13	1,037	29	5	5
Lugus	5	17,619	1,499	16,120	19,423	81	14	19,722	76	14	(299)	77	16	(2)
Luuk	5	50,874	11,799	39,075	47,905	15	3	48,236	12	3	(330)	79	17	(1)
Maimbung	5	9,255	24,777	(15,522)	22,706	74	12	21,657	73	12	1,049	28	4	5
Panamao	4	18,748	1,387	17,362	28,148	50	9	25,917	57	10	2,232	18	3	8
Pandami	5	6,622	426	6,197	25,056	66	11	25,037	63	11	19	61	14	0
Pangutaran	4	19,559	1,598	17,961	32,730	37	8	32,721	36	8	9	66	15	0
Parang	3	14,598	5,954	8,643	42,277	24	5	42,016	22	4	261	50	10	1
Pata	5	21,177	525	20,652	16,639	84	16	16,079	84	16	560	40	6	3
Patikul	4	9,211	1,009	8,203	34,374	33	7	33,896	33	7	478	42	8	1
Siasi	3	65,235	4,758	60,477	44,126	21	4	38,939	28	6	5,187	13	2	12
Talipao	2	38,085	1,529	36,557	56,168	9	2	55,981	7	2	187	52	11	0
Tapul	5	13,299	57	13,241	19,352	82	15	18,811	78	15	541	41	7	3
Tongkil	5	32,353	1,029	31,324	26,306	57	10	26,256	55	9	50	59	13	0
Tawi-Tawi		179,237	35,827	143,410	412,632			391,229			21,403			5
Bongao	3	45,506	8,521	36,985	46,545	16	4	44,746	15	3	1,799	22	5	4
Languyan	3	29,701	2,030	27,671	53,050	10	2	54,283	9	2	(1,233)	87	10	(2)
Mapun	4	19,890	7,868	12,023	28,622	47	9	26,020	56	9	2,601	17	4	9
Panglima Sugala	3	20,677	1,315	19,362	43,955	22	6	43,876	18	5	78	56	8	0
Sapa-Sapa	4	17,924	10,747	7,177	31,987	39	7	27,908	50	8	4,080	14	2	13
Simunul	4	11,610	2,030	9,580	30,981	42	8	29,877	43	7	1,084	27	6	3
Sitangkal	2	7,892	51	7,841	68,537	4	1	65,178	2	1	3,360	15	3	5
South Ubian	4	7,069	1,986	5,123	50,059	14	3	41,065	23	6	8,994	5	1	18
Tandubas	3	16,748	335	16,413	45,219	18	5	44,478	16	4	741	34	7	2
Turtle Islands	5	2,200	964	1,235	13,696	88	10	13,797	87	10	(100)	69	9	(1)

Difference between totals and sum of components is due to rounding off

Rank

1-Regionwide Ranking

2-Provincewide Ranking

(PDI-August 25, 2006)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON AUDIT
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City

FINANCIAL REPORTS OF MUNICIPALITIES
REGIONS 11, 12, 13 AND ARMM
Fiscal Year 2005
(in thousand pesos)

Local Government Units	Class	Balance Sheet			Statement of Income and Expenses									
		Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Total Equity	Total Income	Rank 1	Rank 2	Total Expenses	Rank 1	Rank 2	Net Income (Net Loss)	Rank 1	Rank 2	% of Net Income (Net Loss) to Total Income
REGION 11		3,826,600	1,066,806	2,759,794	2,586,223			2,308,527			257,696			10
Compostela Valley		1,240,196	293,201	946,996	715,071			644,426			70,646			10
Compostela	1	159,196	32,944	126,252	68,839	13	6	55,246	16	7	13,593	4	1	20
Laak	1	100,610	19,174	81,436	75,466	10	3	72,596	9	2	2,870	32	10	4
Mabini	3	68,327	20,826	47,502	47,242	29	9	45,988	24	9	1,254	41	11	3
Maco	1	86,570	14,119	72,452	71,150	11	4	65,778	11	4	5,372	21	7	8
Maragusan	2	59,105	8,573	50,532	56,511	18	8	50,951	18	8	5,560	19	5	10
Mawab	3	98,933	30,435	68,498	41,863	35	11	32,697	40	11	9,165	8	3	22
Monkayo	1	277,531	61,449	216,082	102,688	3	1	97,983	2	1	4,705	24	8	5
Montevista	3	64,024	15,355	48,668	43,785	34	10	38,348	34	10	5,437	20	6	12
Nabunturan	1	96,844	22,857	73,987	70,334	12	5	61,707	12	5	8,627	10	4	12
New Bataan	2	103,135	50,939	52,196	59,280	17	7	56,135	14	6	3,145	30	9	5
Pantukan	1	125,922	16,530	109,392	77,914	9	2	66,996	10	3	10,918	7	2	14
Davao Del Norte		709,084	143,071	566,013	443,624			393,023			50,601			11
Asuncion	2	65,466	14,028	51,437	52,225	21	4	50,582	19	4	1,643	39	8	3
Carmen	2	55,152	8,120	47,032	61,563	16	3	55,646	15	3	5,917	16	4	10
Dujali	4	43,486	4,250	39,236	26,174	43	8	24,175	42	7	1,999	36	7	8
Kapalong	1	227,392	40,741	186,651	85,136	6	2	81,543	5	2	3,593	27	6	4
New Corella	2	75,235	10,583	64,652	50,985	23	5	39,795	31	6	11,191	6	2	22
San Isidro	Uncl	39,702	17,302	22,400	32,716	41	7	18,967	44	8	13,749	3	1	42
Sto. Tomas	1	158,875	34,850	124,025	90,822	4	1	82,594	4	1	8,228	11	3	9
Talaingod	3	43,776	13,197	30,579	44,003	32	6	39,721	32	6	4,281	25	5	10
Davao Del Sur		1,121,349	366,005	755,344	754,612			670,440			84,172			11
Bansalan	2	79,621	17,722	61,899	52,863	20	5	44,103	28	8	8,760	9	3	17
Don Marcelino	3	62,902	17,438	45,464	41,002	36	11	38,213	35	10	2,789	34	10	7
Hagonoy	3	42,399	11,793	30,606	47,775	28	8	46,801	22	5	974	42	13	2
Jose Abad Santos	1	112,329	34,932	77,398	64,576	15	4	58,812	13	3	5,764	17	5	9
Kiblawan	2	72,064	17,055	55,009	50,039	26	6	45,068	25	7	4,971	22	6	10
Magsaysay	3	45,786	19,551	26,234	47,883	27	7	46,095	23	6	1,788	37	12	4
Malalag	3	70,693	20,689	50,003	43,854	33	10	36,463	36	11	7,391	13	4	17
Malita	1	272,746	114,326	158,420	114,615	2	1	96,562	3	1	18,053	2	2	16
Matanao	3	79,600	28,374	51,226	67,845	14	3	49,357	20	4	18,488	1	1	27
Padada	4	42,388	2,533	39,854	37,544	38	12	35,109	37	12	2,435	35	11	6
Santa Cruz	1	124,960	55,321	69,640	82,558	7	2	78,336	7	2	4,222	26	8	5
Santa Maria	3	67,278	12,560	54,718	45,535	31	9	40,568	30	9	4,966	23	7	11
Saranggani	5	30,597	5,775	24,822	24,076	44	14	21,195	43	14	2,881	31	9	12
Sulop	4	17,987	7,937	10,050	34,448	40	13	33,758	39	13	690	43	14	2
Davao Oriental		755,971	264,529	491,441	652,916			600,638			52,278			8
Baganga	1	74,151	5,779	68,371	78,150	8	3	76,740	8	3	1,410	40	10	2
Banay-Banay	2	75,994	21,958	54,035	50,051	25	7	44,453	27	7	5,598	18	5	11
Boston	4	59,627	20,079	39,547	30,803	42	11	24,235	41	11	6,568	15	4	21
Caraga	2	69,375	25,603	43,772	54,213	19	4	51,348	17	4	2,865	33	8	5
Cateel	3	32,797	5,785	27,013	46,739	30	8	43,163	29	8	3,576	28	6	8
Gov. Generoso	3	37,837	1,799	36,038	51,618	22	5	44,553	26	6	7,065	14	3	14
Lupon	1	117,220	28,050	89,170	89,330	5	2	81,295	6	2	8,036	12	2	9
Manay	2	62,451	33,175	29,276	50,972	24	6	47,677	21	5	3,296	29	7	6
Mati	1	159,736	103,255	56,481	125,699	1	1	113,952	1	1	11,747	5	1	9
San Isidro	3	37,135	12,819	24,316	40,537	37	9	38,768	33	9	1,768	38	9	4
Tarragona	4	29,649	6,227	23,422	34,803	39	10	34,453	38	10	349	44	11	1
REGION 12		3,902,682	957,694	2,944,988	2,872,418			2,532,465			339,953			12
North Cotabato		1,585,073	426,084	1,158,989	1,099,812			948,318			151,494			14
Alamada	1	124,498	24,831	99,667	68,122	16	8	58,179	17	7	9,943	9	3	15
Aleosan	4	38,889	9,290	29,599	33,816	45	17	31,740	44	17	2,075	40	17	6
Antipas	3	45,625	10,730	34,895	45,776	38	16	41,699	39	16	4,077	29	14	9
Arakan	2	62,572	27,502	35,070	57,960	27	11	49,087	27	10	8,873	12	6	15
Banisilan	2	35,279	4,510	30,769	51,745	33	14	47,779	32	14	3,966	32	16	8
Carmen	1	172,197	12,984	159,212	89,268	4	2	61,489	15	6	27,779	2	1	31
Kabacan	1	56,161	12,277	43,883	76,493	10	3	67,077	11	4	9,417	11	5	12
Libungan	3	51,024	27,694	23,330	52,380	32	13	48,353	29	12	4,026	30	15	8
Magpet	1	98,423	31,372	67,051	64,083	21	10	57,078	20	9	7,005	17	11	11
Makilala	1	168,687	64,722	103,965	70,069	14	6	62,553	14	5	7,516	15	9	11
Matalam	1	160,715	12,163	148,552	68,774	15	7	47,837	30	13	20,937	4	2	30
Midsayap	1	129,382	26,638	102,744	99,232	2	1	89,659	2	1	9,573	10	4	10
M'lang	1	109,785	39,477	70,309	75,567	12	5	67,092	10	3	8,475	14	8	11
Pigcawayan	2	75,948	28,221	47,727	55,333	28	12	48,577	26	11	6,756	18	12	12
Pikit	1	96,897	48,513	48,384	76,414	11	4	69,153	7	2	7,261	16	10	10
Pres. Roxas	2	86,009	16,498	69,511	65,961	20	9	57,452	19	8	8,509	13	7	13
Tulunan	3	72,981	28,661	44,321	48,818	36	15	43,512	36	15	5,307	25	13	11
Sarangani		679,066	65,704	613,362	492,692			427,756			64,936			13
Alabel	1	84,530	6,913	77,617	80,431	8	3	68,200	8	2	12,231	5	2	15
Glan	1	172,844	7,803	165,042	85,611	6	2	64,171	13	3	21,440	3	1	25
Kiamba	2	71,975	22,359	49,616	54,566	29	6	54,601	24	5	(35)	44	7	0
Maasim	3	70,154	9,104	61,050	63,627	22	5	52,792	26	6	10,836	8	4	17
Maitum	3	87,795	5,388	82,408	45,910	37	7	43,020	37	7	2,891	38	6	6
Malapatan	1	94,329	10,470	83,859	67,532	18	4	55,505	22	4	12,027	6	3	18
Malungon	1	97,438	3,668	93,771	95,015	3	1	89,468	3	1	5,547	22	5	6
South Cotabato		841,716	253,240	588,475	657,630			579,617			78,013			12
Banga	1	43,676	15,850	27,826	62,596	23	5	61,363	16	5	1,233	42	10	2
Lake Sebu	1	41,938	11,870	30,067	67,453	19	4	64,305	12	4	3,149	35	7	5
Norala	3	65,782	26,534	39,249	40,479	40	8	39,232	40	8	1,247	41	9	3
Polomolok	1	295,534	71,040	224,494	142,264	1	1	98,287	1	1	43,976	1	1	31
Sto. Niño	4	63,033	18,610	44,423	37,405	43	9	33,643	43	9	3,762	33	6	10
Surallah	1	78,290	31,909	46,381	79,659	9	3	75,680	6	3	3,979	31	5	5
Tampakan	3	65,763	23,868	41,895	49,594	35	7	46,535	34	7	3,058	36	8	6
Tantangan	4	74,494	16,155	58,339	34,375	44	10	28,290	45	10	6,085	20	3	18
T'Boli	1	49,968	20,185	29,783	82,752	7	2	77,394	5	2	5,358	24	4	6
Tupi	2	63,238	17,219	46,018	61,052	25	6	54,887	23	6	6,165	19	2	10
Sultan Kudarat		796,827	212,665	584,161	622,283			576,773			45,510			7
Bagumbayan	1	97,395	4,514	92,881	68,067	17	3	56,589	21	4	11,478	7	1	17
Columbio	2	80,743	12,953	67,791	59,581	26	5	54,208	25	5	5,373	23	3	9
Esperanza	2	71,157	6,337	64,819	52,674	30	6	47,408	33	7	5,266	26	4	10
Isulan	1	97,283	24,651	72,632	87,204	5	1	87,343	4	1	(139)	45	11	0
Kalamansig	1	49,944	15,334	34,610	62,428	24	4	57,871	18	3	4,557	28	6	7
Lambayong	3	89,871	57,467	32,404	49,615	34	8	43,741	35	8	5,873	21	2	12
Lebak	1	81,685	17,980	63,705	70,952	13	2	68,056	9	2	2,896	37	8	4
Lutayan	3	56,737	22,660	34,077	43,008	39	9	42,769	38	9	239	43	10	1
Palimbang	2	108,804	23,484	85,320	52,480	31	7	47,798	31	6	4,682	27	5	9
Pres.Quirino	4	23,646	4,989	18,658	37,758	42	11	35,628	41	10	2,130	39	9	6
Sen. Ninoy Aquino	3	39,562	22,297	17,265	38,517	41	10	35,361	42	11	3,156	34	7	8
REGION 13		3,580,254	869,023	2,711,231	2,566,121			2,386,995			179,127			7
Agusan Del Norte		393,306	81,829	311,477	356,943			329,897			27,046			8
Buenavista	2	78,487	6,737	71,749	71,180	7	1	60,397	8	1	10,784	3	1	15
Carmen	4	25,153	4,631	20,522	28,553	39	7	27,081	38	6	1,472	36	6	5
Jabonga	4	29,043	5,885	23,158	33,693	28	4	32,724	26	4	969	44	7	3
Kitcharao	4	16,950	3,174	13,776	26,839	43	8	25,185	43	8	1,654	33	5	6
Las Nieves	3	40,315	8,189	32,125	46,351	16	2	42,954	19	2	3,397	18	3	7
Magallanes	4	38,571	17,333	21,238	31,157	30	5	30,661	30	5	496	52	9	2
Nasipit	3	61,218	20,929	40,289	42,315	21	3	41,617	21	3	698	47	8	2
R.T. Romualdez	5	24,715	5,691	19,024	21,635	54	10	18,904	57	10	2,730	26	4	13
Santiago	4	57,866	2,925	54,941	29,276	35	6	24,474	45	9	4,800	12	2	16
Tubay	4	20,988	6,334	14,654	25,946	46	9	25,901	41	7	46	63	10	0
Agusan Del Sur		1,543,293	339,191	1,204,102	992,386			912,486			79,899			8
Bayugan	1	193,666	23,624	170,043	107,732	2	2	89,314	2	2	18,417	1	1	17
Bunawan	3	106,482	18,809	87,672	68,251	9	8	59,571	10	9	8,680	6	4	13
Esperanza	1	124,686	10,817	113,869	115,965	1	1	110,616	1	1	5,349	8	5	5
La Paz	1	112,001	1,568	110,432	84,399	4	4	72,989	6	6	11,410	2	2	14
Loreto	1	109,438	19,020	90,418	86,085	3	3	85,525	3	3	560	49	13	1
Prosperidad	2	176,393	31,473	144,920	77,423	6	6	74,034	4	4	3,389	19	10	4
Rosario	3	57,437	18,434	39,002	54,627	12	10	54,958	12	10	(331)	64	14	(1)
San Francisco	1	164,746	41,405	123,341	82,278	5	5	73,019	5	5	9,260	4	3	11
San Luis	3	61,783	32,196	29,587	64,433	10	9	59,996	9	8	4,437	14	9	7
Santa Josefa	4	66,056	26,590	39,466	37,012	26	14	31,805	27	14	5,207	9	6	14
Sibagat	2	121,756	14,471	107,284	51,738	13	11	47,169	13	11	4,569	13	8	9
Talacogon	3	47,831	16,781	31,049	47,382	15	12	44,383	16	12	2,999	24	11	6
Trento	2	80,860	52,688	28,172	69,838	8	7	64,761	7	7	5,076	10	7	7
Veruela	3	120,159	31,313	88,846	45,222	17	13	44,346	17	13	876	45	12	2
Surigao Del Norte		756,956	139,182	617,774	585,804			537,595			48,299			8
Alegria	5	14,366	6,608	7,758	16,851	62	20	15,822	62	20	1,029	42	16	6
Bacuag	5	16,582	4,758	11,824	21,048	57	16	18,127	59	18	2,922	25	8	14
Basilisa	4	31,390	2,741	28,649	27,318	41	6	23,539	46	8	3,778	16	4	14
Burgos	6	13,058	3,256	9,803	12,287	68	26	12,153	68	26	133	61	22	1
Cagdianao	4	58,532	1,323	57,210	34,521	27	2	30,870	29	2	3,651	17	5	11
Claver	4	51,993	2,035	49,957	39,064	23	1	33,147	25	1	5,916	7	2	15
Dapa	4	44,373	8,493	35,880	26,002	45	8	21,162	52	12	4,839	11	3	19
Del Carmen	5	39,102	11,475	27,627	28,898	38	5	26,606	39	5	2,293	29	11	8
Dinagat	5	52,317	7,268	45,030	29,031	36	4	19,782	54	14	9,249	5	1	32
General Luna	5	50,604	6,179	44,425	19,816	58	17	19,352	55	15	465	53	18	2
Gigaquit	4	13,441	2,404	11,037	24,330	48	10	24,694	44	7	(364)	65	24	(1)
Libjo	4	23,621	3,102	20,518	23,119	51	12	19,880	53	13	3,239	20	6	14
Loreto	4	46,691	21,593	25,098	23,759	50	11	27,237	37	4	(3,478)	68	26	(15)
Mainit	4	41,062	6,768	34,295	29,498	33	3	27,940	33	3	1,559	34	12	5
Malimono	5	29,445	7,675	21,770	21,507	55	14	18,365	58	17	3,141	23	7	15
Pilar	5	18,399	3,520	14,879	17,400	61	19	14,791	64	22	2,609	28	10	15
Placer	4	41,723	4,810	36,914	27,268	42	7	26,049	40	6	1,220	40	14	4
San Benito	5	8,495	3,953	4,542	14,034	67	25	13,858	66	24	176	58	21	1
San Francisco	5	5,726	1,634	4,091	18,528	60	18	18,986	56	16	(458)	66	25	(2)
San Isidro	5	20,117	8,237	11,880	14,613	66	24	14,418	65	23	194	57	20	1
San Jose	4	48,045	2,380	45,665	21,256	56	15	21,170	51	11	86	62	23	0
Santa Monica	5	23,624	2,873	20,751	16,534	64	22	15,255	63	21	1,279	39	13	8
Sison	5	7,405	1,214	6,191	21,863	53	13	21,432	50	10	430	54	19	2
Socorro	4	27,044	11,689	15,356	25,699	47	9	22,978	48	9	2,721	27	9	11
Tubajon	5	15,140	2,696	12,443	16,676	63	21	16,159	61	19	517	50	17	3
Tubod	5	14,661	479	14,182	14,976	65	23	13,823	67	25	1,153	41	15	8
Surigao Del Sur		886,699	308,822	577,877	630,898			607,016			23,882			4
Barobo	3	100,419	71,212	29,208	40,661	22	6	38,539	22	6	2,123	31	5	5
Bayabas	5	17,371	3,032	14,339	19,069	59	18	17,522	60	18	1,546	35	7	8
Cagwait	4	55,267	26,411	28,856	29,747	32	11	27,473	36	14	2,274	30	4	8
Cantilan	3	133,666	11,363	122,303	43,127	20	5	41,705	20	5	1,422	37	8	3
Carmen	5	11,013	2,501	8,513	22,580	52	17	22,356	49	17	224	55	14	1
Carrascal	4	24,234	7,243	16,991	28,979	37	13	27,622	35	13	1,357	38	9	5
Cortes	5	20,706	4,173	16,533	24,005	49	16	23,195	47	16	810	46	11	3
Hinatuan	3	85,390	24,001	61,389	44,240	18	3	44,043	18	4	196	56	15	0
Lanuza	4	24,411	17,088	7,323	28,372	40	14	27,859	34	12	513	51	13	2
Lianga	4	23,251	12,667	10,584	31,073	31	10	30,417	31	10	656	48	12	2
Lingig	4	30,441	19,496	10,945	37,303	25	8	34,121	24	8	3,182	22	3	9
Madrid	4	11,641	2,161	9,480	26,014	44	15	25,855	42	15	159	59	16	1
Marihatag	4	42,754	13,422	29,332	33,224	29	9	31,501	28	9	1,724	32	6	5
San Agustin	4	39,515	12,880	26,635	29,425	34	12	29,274	32	11	151	60	17	1
San Miguel	2	72,758	14,563	58,195	50,137	14	2	46,941	14	2	3,196	21	2	6
Tagbina	3	73,990	23,864	50,125	44,112	19	4	44,809	15	3	(697)	67	18	(2)
Tago	3	36,052	7,258	28,794	37,785	24	7	36,804	23	7	980	43	10	3
Tandag	2	83,819	35,489	48,331	61,044	11	1	56,980	11	1	4,065	15	1	7
ARMM		2,054,224	436,998	1,617,227	3,053,790			2,922,199			131,590			4
Basilan		357,528	109,297	248,230	295,359			269,201			26,158			9
Lamitan	2	80,431	13,128	67,303	57,032	8	3	51,013	11	3	6,018	8	2	11
Lantawan	4	41,571	16,599	24,972	36,918	31	5	36,103	31	5	812	33	4	2
Maluso	4	40,985	32,085	8,899	31,111	41	6	30,476	39	6	635	38	6	2
Sumisip	3	84,658	8,877	75,781	58,693	6	2	57,956	6	1	737	36	5	1
Tipo-Tipo	3	58,172	6,226	51,946	58,991	5	1	42,632	20	4	16,359	1	1	28
Tuburan	3	51,712	32,382	19,329	52,614	11	4	51,017	10	2	1,597	24	3	3
Maguindanao		337,677	160,765	176,913	628,589			594,538			34,051			5
Ampatuan	4	37,982	24,184	13,798	29,982	46	7	29,098	44	8	884	31	9	3
Barira	5	18,797	3,797	15,000	28,122	51	8	27,984	49	9	137	53	15	0
Datu Montawal	Uncl	11,310	3,179	8,131	23,159	72	13	22,326	72	13	834	32	10	4
Datu Abdullah Sengki	Uncl	4,191	972	3,219	25,570	62	12	24,581	67	12	989	30	8	4
Datu Piang	3	19,844	16,593	4,251	45,187	19	4	45,914	14	4	(727)	84	18	(2)
Datu Sinsuat	2	30,997	18,867	12,129	73,840	1	1	67,258	1	1	6,583	7	2	9
Datu Saudi Ampatuan	Uncl	5,109	875	4,234	27,040	54	9	25,630	59	11	1,410	25	7	5
Datu Unsay	Uncl	11,703	5,310	6,393	20,874	78	16	15,486	85	18	5,388	11	4	26
Matanog	5	21,839	19,948	1,891	26,042	60	11	29,971	42	7	(3,930)	91	19	(15)
Pagalungan	1	28,093	8,644	19,449	57,967	7	3	58,444	5	3	(478)	80	17	(1)
Paglat	Uncl	3,273	969	2,304	14,596	87	19	12,381	89	19	2,215	19	6	15
Rajah Buayan	Uncl	1,093	355	739	19,159	83	18	18,420	80	15	739	35	11	4
Sharif Aguak	3	40,914	22,378	18,537	44,590	20	5	44,133	17	5	456	43	13	1
Sultan Kudarat	1	56,506	18,613	37,893	72,047	3	2	62,211	3	2	9,835	4	1	14
South Upi	4	14,493	7,781	6,712	30,389	45	6	30,088	41	6	301	48	14	1
Sultan sa Barongis	4	8,829	3,951	4,878	26,705	55	10	26,842	52	10	(137)	72	16	(1)
Sultan Mastura	Uncl	8,930	2,249	6,681	22,186	75	14	16,597	82	17	5,588	9	3	25
Talayan	4th	6,021	664	5,357	21,397	77	15	18,056	81	16	3,341	16	5	16
Talitay	Uncl	7,752	2,435	5,317	19,738	80	17	19,116	77	14	622	39	12	3
Lanao Del Sur		747,143	53,171	693,972	1,155,201			1,126,806			28,394			2
Bacolod Kalawi	5	25,956	5,318	20,638	37,362	30	9	36,949	30	9	412	45	10	1
Balabagan	4	13,503	542	12,961	30,705	43	16	31,554	38	14	(849)	85	35	(3)
Balindong	4	8,324	811	7,513	32,382	38	14	24,923	64	27	7,459	6	2	23
Bayang	5	18,685	149	18,536	24,490	68	30	25,069	62	26	(579)	82	33	(2)
Binidayan	5	17,178	398	16,780	25,274	64	27	25,404	61	25	(130)	70	25	(1)
Buadiposo Buntong	5	15,792	1,984	13,808	23,746	70	32	23,463	68	30	283	49	13	1
Bubong	4	47,367	2,613	44,753	50,412	13	2	39,013	27	7	11,400	2	1	23
Bumbaran	4	21,228	3,631	17,597	43,496	23	4	43,794	19	3	(298)	76	30	(1)
Butig	Uncl	2,432	-	2,432	22,910	73	34	22,597	71	33	313	47	12	1
Calanogas	5	9,586	363	9,224	15,473	86	37	15,422	86	37	51	58	17	0
Ditsa-an Ramain	4	17,450	2,248	15,201	33,548	34	11	28,107	46	19	5,441	10	3	16
Ganassi	5	11,417	386	11,032	27,978	52	20	28,258	47	18	(280)	75	29	(1)
Kapai	4	16,998	698	16,299	35,368	32	10	33,412	34	11	1,956	21	6	6
Kapatagan	5	31,940	1,080	30,860	25,067	65	28	24,750	66	29	318	46	11	1
Lumba Bayabao	4	33,251	1,314	31,937	46,199	17	3	46,348	13	2	(149)	73	27	0
Lumbaca Unayan	Uncl	2,631	171	2,460	12,338	90	38	12,258	90	38	80	55	15	1
Lumbatan	5	19,639	4,352	15,287	19,816	79	35	18,511	79	35	1,305	26	8	7
Lumbayanague	Uncl	29,182	5,976	23,203	28,276	49	19	26,544	54	22	1,732	23	7	6
Madalum	4	31,224	159	31,066	37,673	29	8	37,657	29	8	17	63	20	0
Madamba	5	5,915	121	5,793	26,526	56	22	26,657	53	21	(131)	71	26	0
Maguing	3	20,771	753	20,018	42,064	25	5	42,054	21	4	11	64	21	0
Malabang	4	41,762	5,687	36,075	40,057	26	6	40,560	24	5	(503)	81	32	(1)
Marantao	3	24,733	851	23,883	39,349	28	7	40,004	25	6	(655)	83	34	(2)
Marogong	4	17,516	179	17,338	26,124	59	24	27,761	51	20	(1,637)	89	38	(6)
Masiu	Uncl	18,332	5,767	12,565	23,236	71	33	23,226	69	31	10	65	22	0
Mulondo	4	18,238	128	18,110	30,544	44	17	30,291	40	15	253	51	14	1
Pagayawan	5	12,002	150	11,852	24,454	69	31	24,768	65	28	(314)	78	31	(1)
Piagapo	4	14,380	1,790	12,590	33,508	36	13	32,790	35	12	717	37	9	2
Poona Bayabao	5	11,612	555	11,057	28,488	48	18	28,427	45	16	60	57	16	0
Pualas	5	9,146	1	9,145	5,663	91	39	5,623	91	39	40	60	18	1
Saguiaran	4	26,108	728	25,379	33,509	35	12	34,788	32	10	(1,279)	88	37	(4)
Sultan Dumalondong	Uncl	4,005	28	3,977	16,033	85	36	16,080	83	36	(47)	67	23	0
Sultan Gumander	4	13,656	378	13,278	25,771	61	25	25,830	58	23	(60)	68	24	0
Tagoloan	5	14,660	569	14,091	26,303	58	23	21,042	74	34	5,261	12	4	20
Tamparan	5	15,169	298	14,871	25,031	67	29	22,866	70	32	2,166	20	5	9
Taraka	4	15,146	83	15,062	27,415	53	21	28,282	46	17	(867)	86	36	(3)
Tubaran	4	24,924	208	24,716	31,333	40	15	31,560	37	13	(227)	74	28	(1)
Tugaya	4	12,469	-	12,469	25,500	63	26	25,483	60	24	18	62	19	0
Wao	Uncl	52,816	2,700	50,116	51,781	12	1	54,683	8	1	(2,902)	90	39	(6)
Sulu		432,639	77,938	354,701	562,009			540,425			21,583			4
Hadji P. Tahil	5	9,263	1,093	8,170	12,950	89	17	12,511	88	17	439	44	9	3
Indanan	3	31,779	7,578	24,201	39,678	27	6	39,586	26	5	93	54	12	0
Jolo	2	63,989	12,447	51,542	72,195	2	1	62,123	4	1	10,072	3	1	14
J. Caluang	5	10,974	474	10,500	21,975	76	13	20,939	75	13	1,037	29	5	5
Lugus	5	17,619	1,499	16,120	19,423	81	14	19,722	76	14	(299)	77	16	(2)
Luuk	5	50,874	11,799	39,075	47,905	15	3	48,236	12	3	(330)	79	17	(1)
Maimbung	5	9,255	24,777	(15,522)	22,706	74	12	21,657	73	12	1,049	28	4	5
Panamao	4	18,748	1,387	17,362	28,148	50	9	25,917	57	10	2,232	18	3	8
Pandami	5	6,622	426	6,197	25,056	66	11	25,037	63	11	19	61	14	0
Pangutaran	4	19,559	1,598	17,961	32,730	37	8	32,721	36	8	9	66	15	0
Parang	3	14,598	5,954	8,643	42,277	24	5	42,016	22	4	261	50	10	1
Pata	5	21,177	525	20,652	16,639	84	16	16,079	84	16	560	40	6	3
Patikul	4	9,211	1,009	8,203	34,374	33	7	33,896	33	7	478	42	8	1
Siasi	3	65,235	4,758	60,477	44,126	21	4	38,930	28	6	5,187	13	2	12
Talipao	2	38,085	1,529	36,557	56,168	9	2	55,981	7	2	187	52	11	0
Tapul	5	13,299	57	13,241	19,352	82	15	18,811	78	15	541	41	7	3
Tongkil	5	32,353	1,029	31,324	26,306	57	10	26,256	55	9	50	59	13	0
Tawi-Tawi		179,237	35,827	143,410	412,632			391,229			21,403			5
Bongao	3	45,506	8,521	36,985	46,545	16	4	44,746	15	3	1,799	22	5	4
Languyan	3	29,701	2,030	27,671	53,050	10	2	54,283	9	2	(1,233)	87	10	(2)
Mapun	4	19,890	7,868	12,023	28,622	47	9	26,020	60	9	2,601	17	4	9
Panglima Sugala	3	20,677	1,315	19,362	43,955	22	6	43,876	18	5	78	56	8	0
Sapa-Sapa	4	17,924	10,747	7,177	31,987	39	7	27,908	50	8	4,080	14	2	13
Simunul	4	11,610	2,030	9,580	30,961	42	8	29,877	43	7	1,084	27	6	3
Sitangkai	2	7,892	51	7,841	68,537	4	1	65,178	2	1	3,360	15	3	5
South Ubian	4	7,089	1,966	5,123	50,059	14	3	41,065	23	6	8,994	5	1	18
Tandubas	3	16,748	335	16,413	45,219	18	5	44,478	16	4	741	34	7	2
Turtle Islands	5	2,200	964	1,235	13,698	88	10	13,797	87	10	(100)	69	9	(1)

Difference between totals and sum of components is due to rounding off
Rank
1-Regionwide Ranking
2-Provincewide Ranking

(PDI-August 25, 2006)

DEMETRIO RAMOS BAUTISTA

Of Peñaranda, Nueva Ecija
Founder of
Fil-American Hardware Co., Inc.

Peacefully joined our Creator
on August 24, 2006
at the age of 87.

His loving children: JOHN & MALOU BAUTISTA, JUN & CHERYL BAUTISTA, PABLO & MARILOU GARCIA-MORERA, EDDIE & CECILLE SALONGA, CHEONG YAN SEE & TES; his loving partner BELLA QUIAZON; his 17 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren, request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Mortuary of Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Sunday, August 27, 2006 at the family mausoleum in Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 3:00 p.m. Mass in Santuario San Jose Church.

Leticia Perez de Guzman

(May 22, 1912 – August 22, 2006)

Her bereaved family: husband **Atty. Bernardino E. de Guzman (†)**; children **Bernadette** and **Robert M. Paterno**; **Jose (†)** and **Trinidad**; **Victoria**; **Bernardino Jr.** and **Gertrudes**;

Sister-in-law **Azucena Vera-Perez**;

Her grandchildren: **Chiqui** and **Michelle Paterno**; **Jaime Paterno (†)**; **Cookie** and **Patrick Lugue**; **Candy** and **Noel Madridejos**, **Cindy** and **Timmy Tuason**, **Cherry** and **Pio Juszkiewicz**; **Chinky**; **Gino de Guzman**;

Her great grandchildren: **Marty** and **Noelle Paterno**; **Gaby** and **Adi Lugue**; **Alex Madridejos**; **Vicky Tuason** request your prayers for her eternal repose.

Her remains lie in state at Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City.

I have
fought
the good
fight,
I have
finished
the race,
I have
kept the
faith

(2 Timothy 4)

Message of thanks

We, parents: Manny & Irene; siblings: Jojo & Diana; relatives and friends of the late

Emir Angelo D. Regio

who passed away in the grace of our Lord on August 10, 2006

wish to express our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to all who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers & messages of sympathy & who in countless ways condoled with and comforted us in our days of bereavement.

On the Occasion of the

12th Death Anniversary of

NINA ESTRADA PUYAT

on August 26, 2006

Masses will be offered in the following churches:

1) **SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO**	*Forbes Park, Makati*	7:30 am 6:00 pm
2) **COLEGIO DE SAN AGUSTIN CHAPEL**	*Dasmariñas Village, Makati*	6:45 am 6:45 pm
3) **ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE**	*62 Constellation St., Bel-Air*	6:30 am 6:30 pm
4) **ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH**	*Pasay Road, Makati*	7:30 am 6:00 pm
5) **ST. FRANCIS DE ASSISI CHURCH**	*Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong*	6:30 am 6:00 pm
6) **OUR LADY OF EDSA SHRINE**	*EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave.*	6:30 am 7:00 pm
7) **CHRIST THE KING**	*Greenmeadows*	7:00 am 6:00 pm

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
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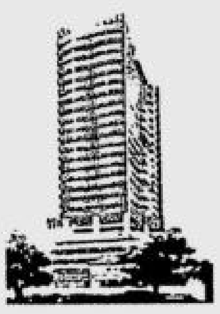

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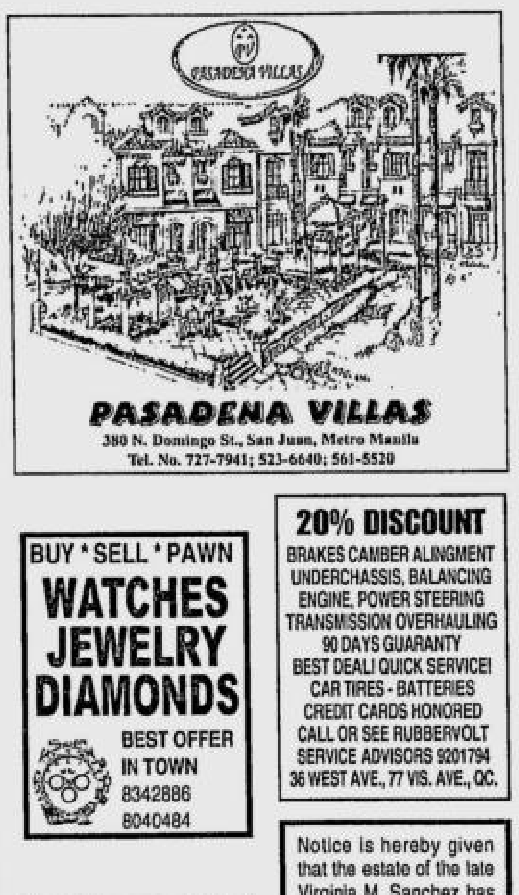

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Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Virginia M. Sanchez has been extrajudicially settled by the heirs as Per Doc # 274; Page # 56; Book # 1 Series of 2006 by Atty. Joseph Erwin J. Gregorio Notary Public for and in the City of Pasig.

(PDI - Aug. 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2006)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES 722-1144 • 722-1155

CAMARINES SUR III ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
(CASURECO III)
San Isidro, Iriga City
Fax No. (054) 299-2382

INVITATION TO BID

The Camarines Sur III Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO III) thru 5% reinvestment fund would like to procure various electrical materials and equipment to be used in our coverage area.

LOT I – LINE HARDWARES
LOT II – LINEMAN TOOLS & EQUIPT.
LOT III – FUSE CUT OUT & FUSE LINKS
LOT IV – DUPLEX WIRE & TW WIRE
LOT V – WEDGE CONNECTOR
LOT VI – REPAIR OF RECLOSER (single phase)
LOT VII – KWH METER SINGLE PHASE
LOT VIII – DIST. TRANSFORMER (brand new)

Bidders are required to submit their original company profile during the pre bid conference on August 28, 2006 at exactly 10:00 a.m. at the Coop function room. Accreditation fee is Php 500.00 and certification is Php 100.00. Bid documents will be purchased at Php 3,000.00 (non refundable). Bidding proper will be on September 01, 2006 at exactly 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon.

CASURECO III reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive defect or informality therein, or accept any bid or offer, which it may consider, to be advantageous and beneficial to CASURECO III.

(Sgd.) **MR. PERFECTO M. GASCON**
BAC Chairman

Noted by:

(Sgd.) **ENGR. PEDRO M. PRESTADO, JR.**
General Manager

(PDI–August 25 & 27, 2006)

More Classified Ads:
NFA & Supreme Court on *A15*;
Silang Water District & Margosatubig Regional Hospital on *A24*.

AyalaLand

INVITATION TO BID

ALI Bid Sale No. 10-2006

Ayala Land, Inc. and Enjay Hotels, Inc. are inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids the following items:

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION OF ITEMS	MINIMUM BID
Lot 1	Two (1) units Water-cooled Packaged Chillers "York Brand" - 1 unit Codepak Model YT-3E1-CRAS, 450TR - 1 unit Open Turbopak Model OT230, 230TR	Plant Room, Basement, InterContinental Manila, #1 Ayala Avenue, Makati City	P800,000.00

Details of the items as well as the bid documents (Bid Forms, Bidders Tender and Invitation to Bid) may be obtained at Ayala Land, Inc - Materials Management Division (ALI-MMD), Bldg. 6, EDSA corner McKinley Road, Makati City. Contact person: Rey L. Lavapiez, Telephone No. 818-7471 (loc. 109).

Sealed bids should be dropped at the Bid Box located at ALI-MMD on or before August 29, 2006 at exactly two o'clock p.m. The bids shall be labeled ALI-BID SALE No. 10-2006. No bids will be accepted if submitted beyond the set deadline. Viewing schedule: August 28, 2006 (2:00 p.m.).

Bidder's deposit equivalent to ten (10) percent of the bid price in Cash (Philippine Currency) or in Certified Manager's Check in favor of ENJAY HOTELS, INC. shall be enclosed with the sealed bid. Any other form or draft purportedly as manner of payment is not acceptable. A bid without the required bidder's bond shall be declared disqualified.

The bidder must sign the bid form, bidders tender and the sealed envelop across its flap. Unsigned documents shall be a ground for the disqualification of the bid offer. Any erasure, correction, and/or addition must be initialed by the bidder.

The sealed bids will be opened in the presence of the representatives from ALI-MMD, ALI-Audit and Systems, all participating bidders or their representatives and other interested parties

The sale of the items shall be on an "As is, Where is" basis. The winning bidder shall undertake the full responsibility to acquire the necessary permits in order to have peaceful possession of the items included in the sale.

Upon evaluation and determination of the result of the bidding, a Notice of Award will be issued to the winning bidder. In the event that the winning bidder refuses to accept the award and/or abide by the conditions of the bid, the bid deposit will be forfeited in favor of ALI. The award shall then be given to the next qualified highest bidder.

Upon the winning bidder's acceptance of the Notice of Award, full payment must be made within three (3) working days at Enjay Hotels, Inc., 19/F Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Makati City. This will be in the form of cash or manager's check in favor of ENJAY HOTELS, INC. A penalty of ten (10) percent of the bid price plus an additional interest based on the prevailing market rate shall be imposed if the winning bidder fails to withdraw the merchandise from the designated storage area after seven (7) calendar days from the date of receipt of the Notice of Award.

The award shall be made to the bidder who made the most advantageous offer to Ayala Land, Inc. and Enjay Hotels, Inc., who reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any defect found therein

All awards shall be subject to the approval of the head of ALI's Materials Management Division and the ALI Comptroller whose decision shall be binding on all concerned.

(Signed) JUANITO P. ROSALES
Vice President
Materials Management Division

(PDI–August 25, 2006)

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY

The Bureau of Customs, through the Value Added Service Provider (VASP) Accreditation Committee (VAC), invites interested parties to apply for eligibility to become VASPs that will deliver world-class-quality front-end customs ICT/IT services to its growing transacting public. These Internet-based VASP services include, but are not limited to: providing expert technical assistance and support to the transacting public for efficient link with the BOC e-Customs Systems, providing support to the BOC in prosecuting violations of tariff and customs laws, receiving and transmitting of electronic data to concerned BOC offices, acting on the responses and messages returned by the BOC Gateway, and notifying clients on the status of the following:

a. Registration of BOC Clients
b. Lodgement of Import Declarations (Consumption, Warehousing, Transhipment, and Informal)
c. Lodgement of Export Declarations
d. Transmission of Raw Materials Liquidation Information
e. Transmission of Surety Bonds Information
f. Transmission of Payment Information
g. Transmission of Online Release Information
h. Other services as may be defined by the Commissioner of BOC

The prospective VASP must be all of the following:

1. A reputable ICT/IT company registered in the Philippines
2. Has been operational in the Philippines for the immediately preceding three (3) consecutive years
3. Track record in current customs ICT/IT operations for a minimum of three (3) years
4. Capacity to provide application services on all VASP services enumerated in items *a.* to *h.* above
5. Capability to service all identified BOC collection districts, including sub ports nationwide

The prospective VASP shall submit its Letter of Intent (LOI) expressing its formal declaration that it meets the criteria for eligibility as enumerated in items 1 to 5 above, together with all legal, technical, financial and other documentary requirements for eligibility.

All requirements shall be hand-delivered and submitted in seven (7) copies (2 original copies and 5 photocopies) not later than 12:00 noon of September 04, 2006 to the Value Added Service Provider Accreditation Committee (VAC) c/o Deputy Commissioner Alexander M. Arevalo, MISTG, 2/F New Customs ICT Center (formerly CCC Bldg.), Bureau of Customs, Port Area, Manila. LATE AND INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Since documentary requirements have to be signed, certified and/or notarized, documents submitted by email, facsimile transmission, or any other forms of electronic submission are not allowed.

BOC reserves the right to reject any or all applicants, to waive any informality or minor defect, and to accept the offers that are most advantageous to the Government. BOC shall in no case be held responsible or liable for any and all costs associated with the applicant's participation in the accreditation process regardless of its results.

The documentary requirements for eligibility can now be obtained, free of charge, from the VAC through the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for MISTG, BOC, and may also be downloaded from *www.customs.gov.ph*.

(Sgd.) **DEP. COMM. ALEXANDER M. AREVALO, MISTG**
Chairman, VAC, BOC

(PDI – Aug. 25, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF OLONGAPO
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
Engineering Department, 3/F City Hall Complex
Tel./Fax No. 047-222-3301
Web: www.olongapocity.gov.ph
Email: Olongapo@piol.net

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The Olongapo City Government through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid separately for each individual project with their respective budget sourced stated below:

1.)	**Name Of Project:**	**Proposed OPD/Medical Arts Building**
	Approved Budget for the Contract:	**Php 22,839,476.00**
	Location Of Project:	**JLGMH, New Asinan, Olongapo City**
	Project Description:	**Building Construction**
	Source of Fund:	**DBP Loan**
2.)	**Name Of Project:**	**Proposed Pedestrian Bridge at Ulo ng Apo Rotonda (Phase I)**
	Approved Budget for the Contract:	**Php 9,000,000.00**
	Location Of Project:	**East and West Bajac-Bajac, Olongapo City**
	Project Description:	**Design and Construction**
	Source of Fund:	**Lot sales (Trust Fund)**

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the implementation of the contract. The BAC will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of the Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility	August 15-28, 2006
2. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	August 29-30, 2006
3. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	September 01, 2006
4. Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	September 07, 2006
5. Issuance of Bid Documents	September 11-13, 2006
6. Pre-bid Conference	September 15, 2006
7. Receipt and Opening of Bids	September 28, 2006

The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility Forms at the **OFFICE OF THE CITY ENGINEER**, upon their submission of LOI, and upon their payment of a non-refundable amount of **P500.00 to the Treasurer's Office.** Prospective bidders shall submit the eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the said address. They may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check by the BAC at the same address.

The BAC will issue Bidding Documents only to bidders declared by the BAC to be eligible for the bidding upon payment of non-refundable amount to the City Treasurer's Office.

The OLONGAPO CITY GOVERNMENT assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

(Sgd.) **MERLITO J. MAJARUCON**
BAC Secretariat

Noted by:

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ANGELITO OROZCO**
BAC Chairman

(PDI–August 18 & 25, 2006)

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DEPARTMENT HEAD – MARKETING

Responsible to handle all marketing activities for Pyramid Memorial Parks & Alpa Ville San Fabian, Pangasinan.

Qualifications:

BS Degree in Marketing, Management, Engineering or related courses; Must have at least Five (5) years of marketing experience with sound management exposure in real estate to include but not limited to memorial parks & residential subdivision. Pro-active & goal oriented. Can work well under pressure.

Competitive compensation package & golden opportunity to become a MILLIONAIRE!!!

Interested applicants may submit resumé
with 2x2 picture at:
ALPA-PCM, INC. 3M Puso ng Baguio Bldg.,
Session Rd., Baguio City
Tel. Nos. 442-2338 / 444-4137

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE-INFRASTRUCTURE
Cebu Capitol, Cebu City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Province of Cebu, through its Bids and Awards Committee-Infrastructure (BAC-INFRA), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility, to bid for the hereunder contract:

Name of Contract	:	Proposed 100-Bed Carcar Provincial Hospital
Location	:	Carcar, Cebu
Brief Description	:	Upgrading of existing district hospital
Approved Budget for the Contract	:	P 68,668,074.70
Contract Duration	:	365 calendar days

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB license applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC and have key personnel and equipment available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC-INFRA will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as in the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC-INFRA will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statements and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations-A (IRR-A).

The schedule of BAC-INFRA activities is as follows:

BAC-INFRA Activities	Schedule
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility	Aug.25-Sept.1, 2006
2. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	Aug.25-Sept.1, 2006
3. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	September 1, 2006
4. Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	September 7, 2006
5. Issuance of Bidding Documents	September 11, 2006
6. Pre-bid Conference	September 13, 2006
7. Receipt and Opening of Bids	September 25, 2006

The BAC-INFRA Secretariat will issue to prospective bidder's Eligibility Forms at the Provincial Engineer's Office, Legislative Building, Capitol Compound, Cebu City, upon their submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of non-refundable amount of Fifty Pesos (P 50.00) to the Cash Division, Provincial Treasurer's Office. Prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to, and may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check from, the aforementioned address. For further inquiries, one may call the Secretariat at (032) 255-6123.

The BAC-INFRA will issue Bidding Documents including Plans and Specifications only to bidders declared by the BAC-INFRA to be eligible for the bidding upon payment of non-refundable amount of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P 20,000.00) to the Cash Division, Provincial Treasurer's Office.

The Province of Cebu assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids and, reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect or informality in the bids, declare a failure of bidding or not to award the contract.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO T. HABIN**
Chairman

August 25 & Sept. 1, 2006
Posted at the PGSO, Capitol Bldg.,
Prov'l Information Office & at
www.cebu.gov.ph

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE-INFRASTRUCTURE
Cebu Capitol, Cebu City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Province of Cebu, through its Bids and Awards Committee-Infrastructure (BAC-INFRA), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder contracts:

General Information

Title	Cebu Priority Bridges 2006
Scope	Construction of Concrete Bridges (RCBC, RCPC, FS, PSG & RCDG)

Particulars :

Package	ABC (PhP)	Duration (c.d.)	PCAB Category ARCC-based	Location ARCC-based	Plans & Bid Documents
I	3,413,027.71	120	Small B	Southern Cebu	P 3,000.00
II	10,197,280.77	170	Small B	Western Cebu	5,000.00
III	12,150,159.85	180	Small B	Northern Cebu	5,000.00
IV	5,473,497.88	100	Small B	Camotes Island	4,000.00

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the ABC per project number, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC-INFRA will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening and in the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC-INFRA will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Submission of Eligibility Documents / Statements and Screening, Bid and Performance Securities, Pre-bidding Conferences, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract, shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations-A (IRR-A).
The schedule of activities is as follows:

BAC-INFRA ACTIVITIES	Schedule
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility	August 25 – Sept. 1, 2006
2. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	August 25 – Sept. 1, 2006
3. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	September 1, 2006
4. Notice of Eligibility Check Results	September 7, 2006
5. Issuance of Plans and Bid Documents	September 11, 2006
6. Pre-bid Conference	September 13, 2006
7. Receipt and Opening of Bids	September 25, 2006

The BAC-INFRA Secretariat will issue to prospective bidder's Eligibility Forms at the Provincial Engineer's Office, Capitol Compound, Cebu City, upon their submission of a Letter of Intent stating and specifying therein which project number/s they intend to undertake, and payment of non-refundable amount of Fifty Pesos (P50.00) for each project number to the Cash Division, Prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to, and may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check from, the aforementioned address. For further inquiries, one may call the Secretariat at (032) 255-6123.

The Secretariat will issue Bidding Documents including Plans and Specifications only to bidders declared by the BAC-INFRA who are found to be eligible to bid, upon payment to the Cash Division a non-refundable amount above-stated.

The Province of Cebu assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids and, reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding or not to award the contract.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO T. HABIN**
Chairman

Dates of Ads: Aug. 25 & Sept. 1, 2006
Posted at PGSO, PIO & www.cebu.gov.ph

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
1598 M. H. del Pilar corner Dr. J. Quintos Streets, Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos. 522-0000; 526-0100 connecting all departments

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Land Bank of the Philippines invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the projects as stated below:

Item / Description	Approved Budget	Source of Funds	Non-Refundable Fee
Various Continuous Forms - 1 Ply, 2 Ply, 3 Ply and Statement of Account, 8-1/2" x 9-1/2"	P3,735,852.00	LBP Funds	P 1,900.00

Bidding is on September 13, 2006 at 1:00 PM and Bid Documents may be obtained from the General Services Department, 25th Floor, LANDBANK Plaza, 1598 M. H. del Pilar St., Malate, Manila upon payment of the required non-refundable fee.

Interested suppliers are requested to attend the Pre-Bid Conference on August 31, 2006, 2:00 PM at the abovementioned address.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR-A).

LANDBANK reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder(s).

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI–August 18 & 25, 2006)

TransCo
Republic of the Philippines
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of In-Circuit and Board Test/Electronics Diagnostic Workstation

[Reference No.: PB060213-EL0017(PB2)]

1. The *National Transmission Corporation, Head Office Region (TRANSCO-HO)* through the *CY2006 Corporate Budget approved by the TRANSCO Board*, intends to apply the sum of ***Php 5,830,000.00*** being the Total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the **Supply and Delivery of In-Circuit and Board Test/Electronics Diagnostic Workstation**. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The *TRANSCO-HO* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for *Electronics Diagnostic Workstation*. Delivery of the GOODS is required *within ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of approved Purchase Order.* The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders, starting August 24, 2006 to September 13, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of *One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00)*. The method of payment will be CASH. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
5. The *TRANSCO-HO* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on September 4, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at same address below.
6. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 p.m. of September 14, 2006. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in any of the following form and amount:

Form of Security	Amount	
1. Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit (1% of ABC)	Php	58,300.00
2. Bank guarantee (1.5% of ABC)	Php	87,450.00
3. Surety bond (2.5% of ABC)	Php	145,750.00
4. Foreign government guarantee (100% of ABC)	Php	5,830,000.00

or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

7. Bid opening shall be on September 14, 2006 / 2:00 p.m. at the *Admin Conference Room, same address below*. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
8. The *National Transmission Corporation* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

National Transmission Corporation, Head Office Region
Mr. Armando N. Ochoa, BAC Chairman
MMD Office, G/F TransCo Main Bldg.
Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road,
Diliman, Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: (632) 981-2235 / Fax No. (632) 922-8432
Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) **ARMANDO N. OCHOA**
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI - Aug. 25 & Sept. 1, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION
Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Healthline 637-9999 *www.philhealth.gov.ph*

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
(PUBLIC BIDDING)

The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) wishes to invite bidders for the **BLADE SERVERS and PERIPHERALS** and **STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN) CAPACITY UPGRADE** projects.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Blade Servers and Peripherals project can be obtained from August 17 to August 30, 2006 and from August 18 to August 31, 2006 for the Storage Area Network (SAN) project from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the Secretariat – Bids and Awards Committee (OSBAC) Room 1107 11th Floor, Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Blvd. Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig City upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php **4,750.00** per document.

The **PhilHealth** had provided funds for these projects for which this invitation is issued. The approved budget for each contract is **Php 9,500,000.00** each.

A pre-bid conference for the Blade Servers and Peripherals project will be held on August 31, 2006 while the pre-bid conference for the Storage Area Network (SAN) will be held on September 01, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. at the OSBAC (Rm. 1106).

The bidders shall prepare their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposal in three separate sealed envelopes and drop them in their respective bid boxes located at the above-mentioned address.

Submission of bids for the Blade Servers and Peripherals and Storage Area Network (SAN) project will be on September 21, 2006 and September 22, 2006 respectively, on or before 1:30 noon at the OSBAC. Opening of bids will follow at 1:30 p.m. at the same venue on the respective dates. Any bidder who comes late will not be entertained. The official time clock shall be the Bundy clock located at Room 1107 (OSBAC). Any bid submitted after the cut-off time will not be accepted.

The BAC-ITR shall determine if each prospective bidder is eligible to participate in the bidding by examining the completeness of each prospective bidder's eligibility requirements or statements against a checklist of requirements, using **the non-discretionary "pass/fail"** criteria.

To guarantee the faithful performance by the winning bidder of his/her obligations under the contract prepared in accordance with the bidding documents, he/she shall post a Bid Security in any of the following forms and amount;

Forms of Security	Minimum Amount in % of Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid	Amount of Bid Security
Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit	One percent (1%)	Php 95,000.00
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1 1/2%)	Php 142,500.00
Surety Bond	Two and a half percent (2 1/2%)	Php 237,500.00
Foreign Government Guarantee	One hundred percent (100%)	Php 9,500,000.00

We look forward to your participation in this worthwhile endeavor.

PhilHealth reserves the right to waive any formality on the eligibility requirements and of this project. Furthermore, PhilHealth reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) MELINDA C. MERCADO
SVP, Health Insurance Operations Sector and
Chairperson, BAC-ITR

(PDI – August 18 & 25, 2006)

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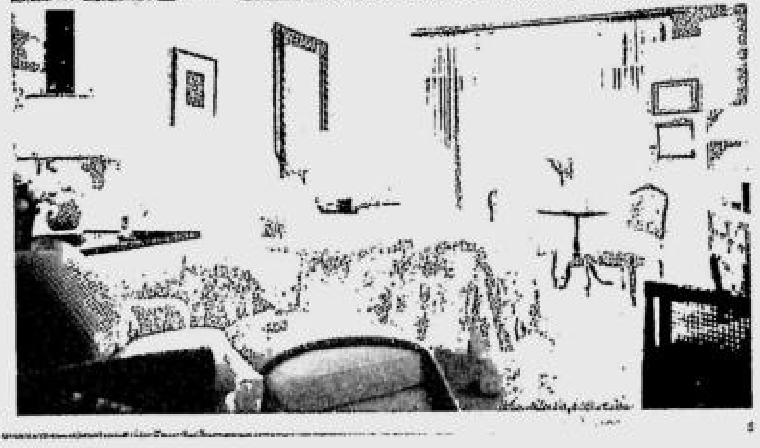

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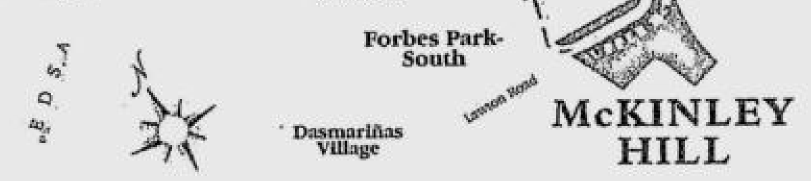
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ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPH BRAVO

Of stagflation and voluntary simplicity buyers

How to sell when economy's down, but prices are up

By Karen V. De Asis
Contributor

STAGFLATION HAPPENS WHEN there is a stagnant economy marked with substantial increases in prices of goods and services. Prolonged stagflation naturally results in massive consumer belt-tightening, increasing poverty and inflation that affect consumer attitude including buying behavior. Needless to say, this has a tremendous impact in the way marketers convince consumers to part with their very limited and hard-earned money.

Today, 90 percent of Filipino consumers belong to the D and E households with a monthly household income of P15,000 and below. This amount, at less than $300, is estimated to feed, clothe, shelter an average family of five including educating their children.

While the Philippine GNP is kept afloat with OFW remittances, the domestic economy continues to reel from the expanded value-added tax (VAT); higher costs of food, utilities and oil prices; unemployment, underemployment and job security problems; political instability, power struggle and a state of seeming apathy.

Despite the seeming negative incidence of stagflation, the Filipinos' penchant for shopping keeps consumerism alive in the country. While shopping remains a passion, marketers are increasingly challenged to present their goods and services in ways that fit the scrimping lifestyle of local consumers.

Coping with stagflation

Dr. Avraham Shama, a Lady Davis Fellow at the Hebrew University, in a longitudinal research on stagflation reveals that stagflation makes consumers change their consumption preferences. It also triggers consumers to judge products and services in a new way. Adjustments in consumer behavior include engaging in more comparative shopping, couples making purchase decisions more often than in the past, less wastefulness, more energy consciousness, valuing fuel economy in transportation, shopping for specials and bargains, buying cheaper products and private labels and shopping at cut-price stores. During stagflation, consumers' decision making are more calculated as they realize how real disposable income has become stagnant or declined.

VS: The new consumer

A stagflation economy automatically leads to the emergence of the new Voluntary Simplicity (VS) consumer—one who believes in material simplicity and conservation over conspicuous consumption; one who scales down or humanizes his living and working conditions while advocating small is beautiful over big is better; one who believes in the use of appropriate technology

OF/ B2-3

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Matrix Motor Corporation
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365-3011 / 365-7796

SUZUKI AUTO QUEZON AVE.
Sunny Motors Group, Inc.
374-39-11 / 411-27-20

SUZUKI AUTO EDSA
Pilhino Sales Corporation
634-3451 to 57

SUZUKI AUTO MAKATI
Heidelberg Motor Corporation
616-4097 / 610-1736 / 610-1737

SUZUKI AUTO SHAW
The Shaw Motor Plaza Corp
718-1834 to 35

PROVINCIAL
SUZUKI AUTO BACOLOD
Automall Motor Sales
(034) 435-0268

SUZUKI AUTO CAGAYAN DE ORO
Anflo Motor Corporation
(088) 227-26357

SUZUKI AUTO DAGUPAN
Amianan Motors
(075) 517-17-17 / 8888 / 9999

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Iloilo Car Corp.
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SUZUKI AUTO PAMPANGA
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(045) 860-5971 /(045) 961-3573

SUZUKI AUTO CABANATUAN
Prince Motor Corporation
(044) 463-5248 / 463-0089

SUZUKI AUTO CEBU
Cebu Autocentrale Corp.
(032) 345-8892 / (032) 345-8893

SUZUKI AUTO DAVAO
Motormall Davao Corporation
(082) 233-1140 / 234-0390

SUZUKI AUTO LEGASPI
Lisam Motors
(054) 472-3577 to 79 / 472-3659

SUZUKI AUTO ZAMBOANGA
Arcel Marketing, Inc.
(062) 991-1492 / 991-1126

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Local business tax liabilities of a retiring business

By Rodolfo Arvin D. Agbayani and Ruben R. Rubio
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

WHILE SOME BUSINESSES prosper, there are others which fall by the wayside and fail. When things go bad, businesses fold up or they move on to greener pastures. And when things just can't get any worse, the local taxman comes knocking.

Under our Local Government Code, when a business closes or transfers to another city or municipality, the business is required to submit a sworn statement of its gross sales or receipts for the current year (year of retirement). If the tax paid during the year is less than the tax due based on the gross sales or receipts of the current year (year of retirement), the difference should be paid before the business is considered officially retired.

Unfortunately, some city and municipal treasurers insist on billing a retiring business for additional local business tax based on its actual gross sales or receipts in the year of retirement as declared in its sworn statement. The local business tax already paid during the year of retirement is not taken into consideration.

It is their view that the local business tax paid in the current year pertains to local business tax of the preceding year considering that the tax is computed based on the gross sales/receipts of the preceding year. Thus, they believe that a retiring business is still liable for additional local business tax based on the current year gross sales/receipts of the retiring business.

To illustrate, Company A paid a local business tax amounting to P5,000 at the start of the year as a condition for its continued operations of its shawarma business for 2006. Since Company A apparently heard late the news that the shawarma craze has gone out years ago, it fell on rough times and decided to shop its wares elsewhere. Thus, on May 1, 2006, Company A terminated its business and submitted a sworn statement of its gross sales/receipts in the current year. The city treasurer insisted on billing the company an additional P4,000 local business tax for the computed based on the company's gross sales/receipts in the current year. Can the city treasurer rightfully do so?

In a similar case, the Supreme Court said the city can no longer collect. This is the gist of the ruling in the case of Mobil Philippines, Inc. vs. The City Treasurer of Makati. The SC stated the issue as follows: Are local business taxes paid by a business in the current year (year of retirement) local business taxes for the preceding year or the current year?

In the case, Mobil moved its principal place of business from Makati City to Pasig City in August 1998. Mobil filed an application with the City Treasurer of Makati for retirement of its business and declared its gross receipts for the calendar year 1998.

Upon evaluation of the application, the City Treasurer assessed Mobil for alleged additional local business tax for: (1) the 4th quarter of 1998 (based on 1997 gross sales) and (2) its gross sales made in 1998. Mobil paid the assessed amount under protest. After several months, Mobil filed a claim for refund for the amount of local business tax paid based on its gross sales made in 1998. Mobil did not file a claim for refund for the alleged additional local business tax liability covering the 4th quarter of 1998.

The Regional Trial Court ruled in favor of the City Treasurer. The RTC said that since: (1) the business tax is based on the gross sales or receipts of the preceding quarter, or based on the gross sales or receipts for the preceding calendar year; and (2) the business tax accrues only on the first day of January and becomes payable within the first 20 days thereof or of each subsequent quarter, the payments made by Mobil in the year 1998 are therefore payments for the business tax for 1997 which accrued in January of 1998 and became payable within the first 20 days of January or of each subsequent quarter.

The Regional Trial Court further ruled that upon Mobil's retirement in August 1998, the taxes for said year which accrued in January 1999 become immediately payable before the application for retirement can be approved.

The SC reversed the lower court. The SC said that business taxes paid in the year 1998 is for the privilege of engaging in business for the same year, and not for having engaged in business for 1997. Thus, the lower court erred when it said that the payments made by Mobil in 1998 are payments for business tax incurred in 1997 which only accrued in January 1998.

The SC explained that local business taxes do not operate the same way as national income tax. Business taxes imposed in the exercise of police power for regula-

LOCAL/ B2-3

Sony Ericsson

GO PLACES. STAY CONNECTED.
THE NEW M600i.

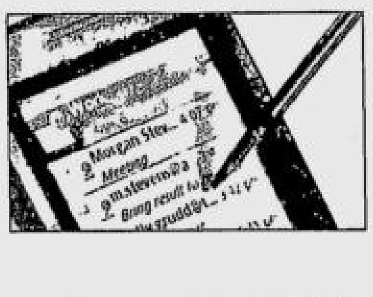
Your pocket office, web browser, multimedia player, organizer, messaging device, and loads more. Made with good looks to match its Granite Black or Crystal White enclosure, the capable M600i is simplicity engineered.

M600
Q W E R T Y U I O P
A S D F G H J K L
Z X C V B N M
ALT

Different strokes for different folks
Put your point across in more ways than one. Feed your QWERTY habit and use the Dual Function Keyboard to craft all those long emails. With intelligent Handwriting Recognition built into the large colour touch screen, you can whip out the stylus and reply all your SMS by hand. Or simply point and click the on-screen keyboard for straightforward text input. And when you've got too much to handle, just reach for the Jog-Dial for easy one-handed operation.

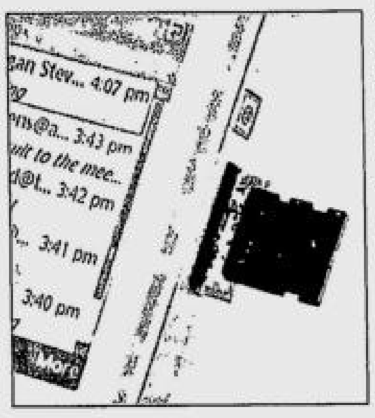
Look sharp
Made with dashing good looks, the sleek, slim and smart M600i keeps up with your style as you breeze between boardrooms and designer boutiques. Its compact form factor sits perfectly well in your hand, pocket or bag.

Stay in touch
Free yourself from your desk and connect securely to both your corporate and personal emails while you're on the go. Sift through your inbox. Send an attachment. Print an attached document wirelessly from the M600i to a Bluetooth™ printer. Stay on top of everything, everywhere, everytime.



The WWW at large

Gain high-speed access to the World Wide Web anywhere. That means the hottest music, videos, and up-to-date RSS feeds at your fingertips. Make an online transaction, check out the weather conditions, look at your friend's online album, or have a quick session of online fun and games.



Show stopper
Bring your own popcorn for your very own film festival or your personal concert. Movie trailers. Music videos. Video newscasts. Even podcasts. A barrage of multimedia sensations to jazz up those dull moments of your day. You can either stream them in or stash it all away in a Memory Stick Micro™(M2™)*. Best of all, you get to feast on it with the large crystal-clear colour display.
*Supports up to 1GB

Cut the cord
Lose the wires and still keep the music playing with the new Stereo Bluetooth™ Headset HBH-DS970. With the ability to grab music from two wireless devices simultaneously, its multipoint function turns your M600i and computer into cordless music jukeboxes instantly. See who's calling with the conveniently placed neck strap display and decide whether to take the call, or soak in the music.

Take the office with you
The Microsoft Office, to be exact. Craft your next big proposal, or crunch the figures on an Excel spreadsheet. Check out an annual report on PDF, or do a Powerpoint presentation off the M600i wirelessly*. Powered by the popular Symbian OS, the conversant M600i opens you up to a world of possibilities. With a selection of over 600 compatible applications and utilities available for the M600i, there's never been a better reason to leave your laptop at home.
*Requires the optional MMV-200.

For further info, please call (02) 635-1860 or text SE HELP to 2960. *P 2.50 per text message

www.SonyEricsson.com/M600i

The world in your hands with the Sony Ericsson M600i

Think pocket office, web browser, multimedia player, organizer and messaging device all rolled into a slim 15mm mobile phone with 3G capability. Even with that, you've barely scratched the stylish surface of the new Sony Ericsson M600i.

Encased in Granite Black or Crystal White, the M600i is Sony Ericsson's second Symbian OS phone, and the first to directly target enterprise users. Over 600 compatible applications and utilities are available for the M600i. But out of the box, this little mobile office lets one craft business letters in MS Word, check out Excel spreadsheets, view a PowerPoint presentation or read through an Adobe PDF file.

Multitasking, whether it's browsing the Internet while making a voice call or downloading while reading email, is easily done. The phone takes full advantage of its UMTS capabilities with fast and easy email handling, even with large attachments. You can connect securely to corporate and personal emails even while on the go. Sift through your inbox, view an attachment or even print emails through a Bluetooth printer.

A range of standard and proprietary push email applications enabled for operator customization are also being developed in conjunction with a number of partners. These are: RIM - BlackBerry Connect, AlteXia, Ericsson Mobile Office (EMO) (Try and Buy), iAnywhere, OneBridge, Intellisync, Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync, Seven, Visto and Standard Email - IMAP IDLE working on all standards compliant servers.

These companies are developing a range of email solutions to enable access any time, anywhere to private or corporate email accounts.

"Estimates show that there are approximately 650 million business email users around the globe, and the demand for true mobile email is growing rapidly," says Jan Wäreby, Corporate Executive Vice President, Head of Sales and Marketing, Sony Ericsson. "While there are some standalone email messaging devices available, many people will welcome fast and easy messaging tools integrated into their mobile phone."

With its 2.6-inch TFT touchscreen at 262K colors and video playback at 30 frames per second, the M600i provides real Internet viewing and surfing pleasure. This mobile phone truly puts the worldwide web in your hands through high bandwidth multimedia downloads. Make online transactions, download videos, music or even games, preview online photo albums and movie trailers, read up on RSS feeds, update your blog, check everything from the weather to the currency exchange.

Other features of this lightweight 112-gram powerhouse are sound recorder, 3D games, MegaBassÔ sound, MP3 ringtones, calendar, timer, alarm clock, speakerphone, stopwatch, Music DJÔ for music editing, and flight mode, to access other features aboard planes.

The ergonomic design of the M600i makes it easy to operate with one hand or two and gives versatile options on how to perform tasks. The dual function keyboard makes for easy messaging input and is also the keypad for number buttons. The phone also has handwriting recognition for one to feed their QWERTY habit and use the stylus. A third way of navigating through long emails is with the innovative 3-way jog dial.

For such a slim device the M600i has an impressive 60MB onboard memory for storing email attachments and multimedia content like video clips, music files and even podcasts. An additional 64MB Memory Stick Micro™ (M2™), which is a new ultra-small recording media designed for highly compact mobile devices, is provided in the box. The M600i is the first Sony Ericsson product to feature this new memory card.

With so many connectivity possibilities, Sony Ericsson has taken great care to ensure mobile security. The M600i offers a Try and Buy package from McAfee for a powerful anti-virus and firewall software for cellular applications, and Pointsec encryption while Certicom VPN client for secure access to corporate networks is offered free of charge.

Sony Ericsson

Leave the laptop at home. Sony Ericsson has made a masterful touch of bringing business and pleasure in just one thin device--the M600i.

ADVT

Of stagflation...

From page B2-1

over automatic application of high technology; one who realizes the importance of ecological awareness and conservation, self-determination and personal growth.

These VS values, developed in seminal works by Elgin, Mitchell and Gregg and confirmed by reputed worldwide Yankelovich Monitor of Social Values and the Values and Lifestyles (VALS) Program of SRI International provide a clear profile of the VS consumer as follows: They prefer smaller products i.e. following the mindset that small is beautiful; opt for simple, more functional, efficient and quality products and smaller, more personal stores; like products that engage interest and involvement; are partial to do-it-yourself products; are keen on innovative outlets like flea markets; engage in wholesale and coop buying; like media and advertising executions that are informative.

Also likely to appeal to VS consumers are no-frill or DIY (do-it-yourself) goods; real estate housing brought down to the human scale with ecological design; organic environmentally responsible and energy saving products (e.g. organic and natural-based, recyclable materials, solar energy based); no-frill transport and carriers; value-based pricing; value driven and informative advertising, specialized and highly involving media; product trial or sampling; knowledgeable salespeople and smaller, more personal outlets.

Where, how to catch VS consumers

The VS consumer, as research shows, is heavily functionality-oriented and value-minded. They have little attachment to imaging, ambiance, style and packaging. This does not mean though, that VS buyers pay for the lowest price all the time. On the other hand, they are willing to pay for higher prices provided the benefits derived from the product attributes tremendously outweighs the overall product cost.

VS consumers are personally involved with the products and services they buy and where they buy them. A local industry presentation made recently by Andrea Snook, Commercial Director of TNS Worldpanel, a world leader in custom research and analysis, complements the findings derived from longitudinal VS researches when it comes to channel design. In a 2006 TNS Worldpanel Philippines' Who Are My Shoppers data, it was revealed that locally, shopping gains were only evident in the drugstores and supermarkets, with each channel recording an increase in basket spending at P13 and P36 pesos respectively while average spending posted P192 and P316 per trip. While convenience is the key driver among supermarkets as evidenced by shopping motivators like proximity to place of work and nearness to other stores; promotions on the other hand are the main driver for drugstores. TNS Worldpanel Philippines reports that good offers that are clearly communicated are the main shopping motivators.

For as long as marketers are able to clearly articulate their product's value and distribute these products and services in channels perceived to be value-driven, they should have a greater chance to reach a bigger segment of Filipino consumers bound to voluntary simplicity.

The writer is a Marketing and Brand Management professor at the De La Salle Professional Schools Graduate School of Business Feedback at kdeasis@skyinet.net or www.karendeasis.com.

Local ...

From page B2-2

tory purposes are paid for the privilege of carrying on a business in the year the tax was paid. It is paid at the beginning of the year as a fee to allow the business to operate for the rest of the year. It is deemed a prerequisite to the conduct of business. Income tax, on the other hand, is a tax on all yearly profits arising from property, professions, trades or offices, or as a tax on a person's income, emoluments, profits and the like. It is tax on income, whether net or gross realized in one taxable year.

The Supreme Court further ruled that the lower court erred when it ruled that Mobil was still liable for business taxes based on its gross income/revenue for January to August 1998. The Supreme Court explained that since the amount of local business tax paid by Mobil in 1998 is already more than the amount of local business tax computed based on Mobil's actual gross sales for 1998, Mobil is no longer liable for additional local business taxes upon its retirement.

The decision in the Mobil case is consistent with Section 145 of the Local Government Code which states that upon termination, the taxpayer is liable for additional local business tax only if the tax paid during the year (year of retirement) is less than the tax due on based on the taxpayer's gross sales or receipts in the current year (year of retirement).

Applying Section 145 of the Local Government Code and the Supreme Court's decision in the Mobil case to the pretend Company in our example above, the Company is no longer liable for the assessment of the treasurer for alleged additional local business tax arising from its transfer.

Considering that the Company's payment in 2006 (P5,000) is already more than the amount of local business tax computed based on its actual gross sales in 2006 (P4,000), the Company is no longer liable for additional local business tax upon its retirement in 2006.

Company A will only be liable for additional local business tax for 2006 if the local business tax it paid in 2006 is less than the local business tax computed based on its gross sales in 2006.

Ex-seminarian lights way by...

From page B2-4

Almeria, is a voice and piano teacher whose students included Minnie Osmeña, Malu Veloso, Chito Antonio and the Yulos. She was a student of Stella Goldenberg-Brimo, whose family owned the Goldenberg Mansion near the Malacañang Palace and the Botica Boie on Escolta.

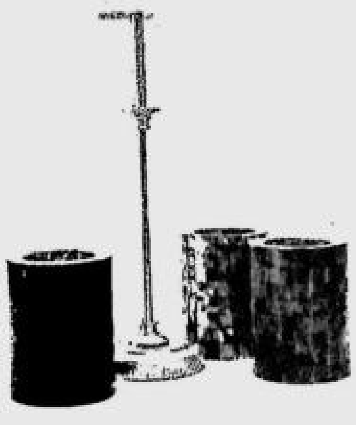
"I grew up listening to classical music because of her," Almeria says of his mother. "She is a close friend of 'Tita Tuling' Victoria, an older sister of Imelda Marcos. I learned to appreciate good taste because my mother was always tagging me along to attend the fabulous parties of Mrs. Marcos in Olot:"

His first job brought him under the keen eye of the interior design doyenne, Edith Oliveros. One of his projects, under Oliveros, was the creation of the special settings of Philippine folk art pieces for the first Citem exhibition.

And then there was Russel Emmert, the well-known American interior and furniture designer and painter. "He was very creative," says Almeria. "And his clients were as diverse as they come—bigshots in Hollywood, billionaires in Beverly Hills, and eccentric foreigners who breed Arabian horses or successful salon owners with a passion for the sunny languor of the Mediterranean." For all of them Emmert created their fanciful or dreamed-of interiors and furniture, with the help of Almeria.

From his design office in Quezon City and Tacloban, Almeria has done residences and condominium units; he redesigned Tia Maria for its new market as well as designed the Jewelmer Boutique and Pearl Museum in Glorietta, among others.

But he has not turned his back on his earlier calling as a messenger of the divine word, notwithstanding that he has not been professed to do so. "We can bring the light and the word to the people, in our own personal way," says Almeria. The lamps of his newest entrepreneurship are in fact symbolic of his unwavering faith and religious mission, their light further illuminating the path he would take as a professional.



GLOBAL but local is what describes Leo Almeria's lamps which can go on buffet side, console and night table. The lamp is made of marble-like serpentine with shade made out of paper

As a kid he had showed signs of being artistic; he was constantly rearranging the furniture in their house. A ceiling lamp fashioned out of Carabao yoke which still hangs in his Quezon City residence today was a joint handiwork of Almeria and his father, Jetex, a physical education teacher, a basketball player, a craftsman and a fix-it-all. The seminary life nurtured his inclinations too. For instance, they allowed him to do the table settings. "I would look for all the matching pieces," he recalls. Once he fashioned napkins from flour sacks, and to make the design complete, he put flower arrangements on the table. Almeria continues to help the SVD fathers in whatever way he can. In fact, he is the set designer for The Healing Eucharist aired every Sunday on ABS CBN.

And he's always finding ways to make the design complete.

Leo Almeria's lamps are available at Abundance in Rustan's Shangri-la Plaza, Townes (Pasay Road, Makati), A-11 (Pasay City), Federal and Acts Interiors along Pasong Tamo, Makati. By appointment 09174546816.

Sony Ericsson

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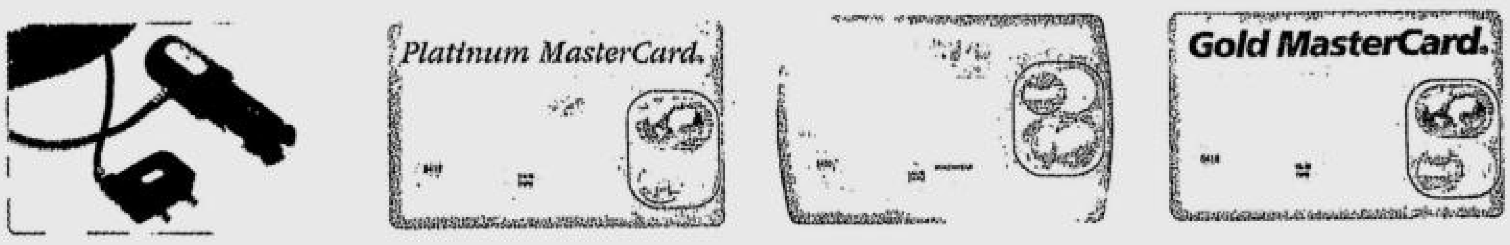

- This promotion is exclusive to Premium MasterCard (Gold MasterCard, Titanium MasterCard and/or Platinum MasterCard) cardholders only.
- Promotion period is from August 23 until October 3, 2006.
- Every purchase of Sony Ericsson M600i from the following participating outlets such as a) **Sony Ericsson Concept Shops** in SM North EDSA, Digital Exchange Glorietta 1, Greenbelt 1, SM Mall of Asia, Ayala Center Cebu City b)**Avant** in Greenbelt 4 c) **Abenson shops** in Glorietta 1, Eastwood Libis, Robinsons Galleria, Shangrila Plaza Mall d) **Automatic Center shops** in Glorietta 4, Gateway Mall, Festival Supermall and North Edsa entitles the customer to a free CLA 60 Car Charger kit.
- The purchase must be an approved bank transaction to be valid for the promotion.
- If credit card transaction is successful, the receipt of the customer will be stamped with VALID FOR THE PROMOTION by the cashier.
- After redeeming the premium item, the Premium MasterCard cardholder receipt will be stamped with CLAIMED.
- Said receipts stamped with CLAIMED cannot be used again.
- Only one (1) premium item for every valid single straight purchase of a Sony Ericsson M600i Gold MasterCard, Titanium MasterCard and Platinum MasterCard.
- The premium item is not convertible to cash nor can it be exchanged for another item.
- Claiming period of premium item shall be until December 3, 2006, which is 60 days from end of promotion period.

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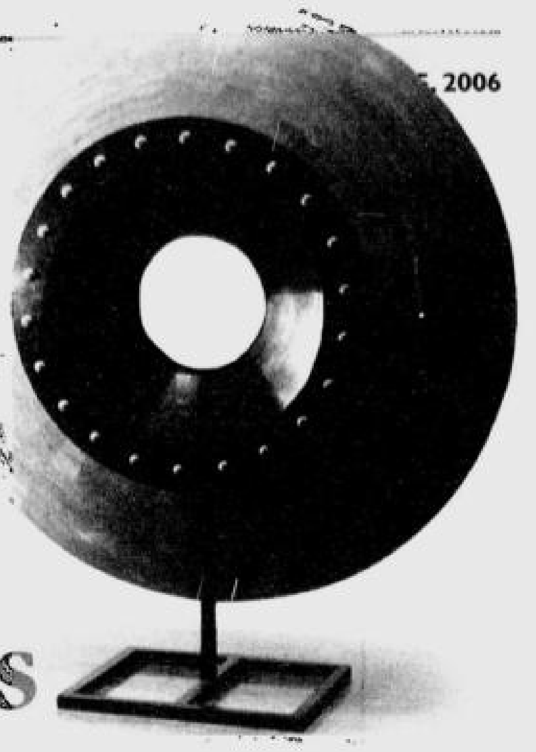
BUSINE

Ex-seminarian lights way by creating lamps



ALMERIA designs one-of-a-kind pieces, like this round table piece made of black stone.

AS A YOUNG MAN, Leo Almeria had wanted to bring the light and the word to the world and had joined the religious order of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) as a brother to be able to do so. But the Big Boss in the sky was even more stern and rigorous than the Donald on cable TV. Leo Almeria had not been one of the chosen few. But that's not the end of the story.

Leo Almeria now finds himself dealing with another kind of light—the more mundane, but also luminous, business of creating lamps.

"I have always been fascinated with lamps and other home, office accessories," he says.

Although he is also into designing occasional furniture pieces, like coffee tables and mirrors and other boutique one-of-a-kinds, it's his lamps, high-end, custom-made or in limited edition, that are in demand among interior designers, decorators, architects and customers.

INTERIOR designer Leo Almeria brings the magic of light into homes. His designs are global but he mixes local materials in these.

"My lamps are designer lines that go well with very modern or traditional interiors," he says. "They're modern and adaptable and the look is very global."

Global with local references—bases of locally available black stone, marble-like serpentine, alabaster-like calcite, and shades made out of silk, paper and locally woven cloths.

The lamps go on buffet tables, side tables, console tables and night tables; they are attached to walls, rise from the floor or drop from ceilings.

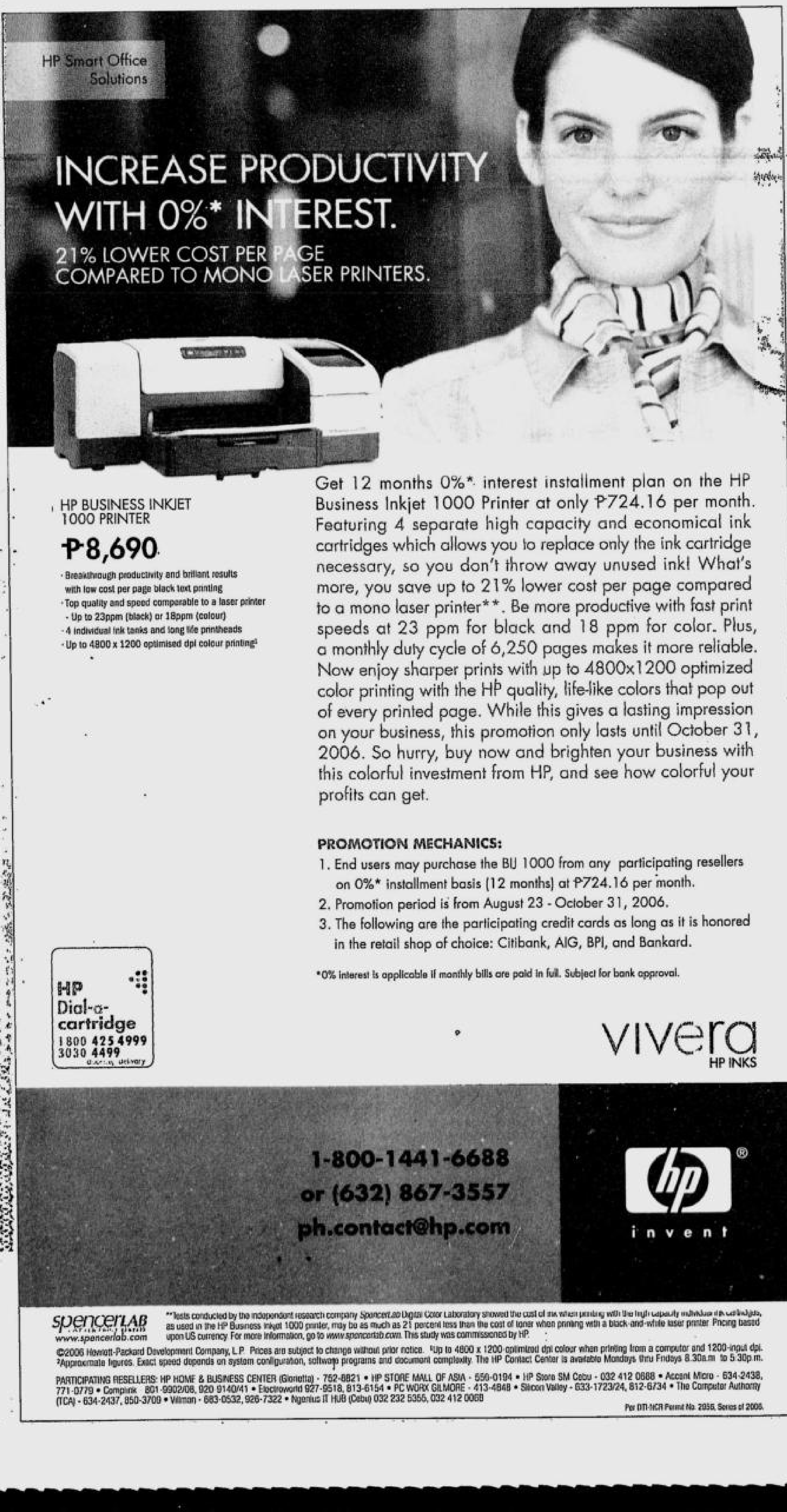
Almeria's lamps grace the lobbies of PICC and the West of Ayala condominium on Buendia, a function room in Essensa at The Fort, and in the homes of the elegant women who have grown attached to the Leo Almeria-style. In his interiors, and in his lamps, this style has a modern edginess with a Zen feeling.

To achieve this he strives for the minimal, almost industrial, design and infuses it with elements like stone, wood, wrought iron and soon glass. It's also a style, he says, that is veering toward what he calls the Neo-Baroque.

His influences as a stylist and interior and product designer, go way back from his religious calling. He counts, among the foremost influences, his artistically and musically inclined family in Tacloban City.

His mother, Leonor Monthermoso

EX-SEMINARIAN/ B2-3



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PROMOTION MECHANICS:

1. End users may purchase the BIJ 1000 from any participating resellers on 0%* installment basis (12 months) at ₱724.16 per month.
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**Tests conducted by the independent research company SpencerLab Digital Color Laboratory showed the cost of ink when printing with the high capacity individual ink cartridges, as used in the HP Business Inkjet 1000 printer, may be as much as 21 percent less than the cost of toner when printing with a black-and-white laser printer. Pricing based upon US currency. For more information, go to www.spencerlab.com. This study was commissioned by HP.

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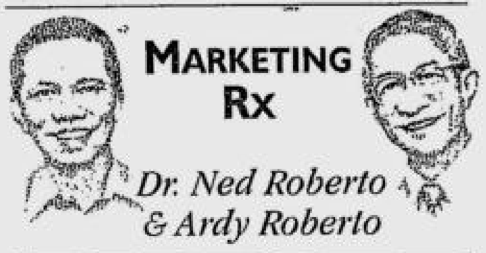
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2056, Series of 2006.

How do we harness the power of Word-of-Mouth (WoM) marketing? I



MARKETING Rx

Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

Q: IN A NUMBER OF PREVIOUS COLUMNS you preached about your research on word-of-mouth (WOM) marketing and how powerful it is in "multiplying the reach of a TV ad that integrates WOM into its copy and message."

We'd like to ask for some insight and practical tips on how we can harness the power of WOM in our own advertising campaigns. (We're not into theories so much, because we're doers.)

A: First of all, we'd like to encourage you to try ridding yourself of your allergy to "theories." As in everything else, there are bad and good theories. But as the practicing social psychologist Kurt Lewin has proven, "nothing is more practical than a good theory."

You need a good theory to explain and to get you to understand why certain things work and others don't. Without that explanation and understanding you won't know what it is that works so that you can repeat those "winning ways." The same goes for knowing what doesn't work so you could avoid it and not fail again.

So what is it specifically in WOM that works and what doesn't work?

Because WOM is a form of communication just like your TV, radio or print advertising, it has a message component and a media component.

So first, what WOM message works and has the potential to multiply the persuasive impact of a TV, radio or print ad? (Since you said that you do have your own advertising campaigns.)

Put conversation value

The current theory says that as long as your word of mouth (WOM) marketing message has "conversation value" for your target audience, then the "WOM reach" will multiply your ad copy impact.

The senior MRx-er's research data has shown that a story about a product's unique "value added benefit" that perceptively differentiates it from competition is the basic ingredient of a conversation value-rich WOM.

What's your overt value-added benefit that's worth talking about?

So you must start with these two things: First, find out the value added benefit in your product (get the book, "Jump Start Your Business Brain" by Doug Hall for very useful exercises and practical insights on how to get your product's most compelling or what Hall calls "overt benefit." This book was available in National Bookstore, if not, make a request at Powerbooks), and second, verify that this value added is a competitive differentiator. Needless to say, we're talking of value added and distinctiveness not as you (the marketer) see them but as your target consumers perceive them.

Celebrity use sparks WOM

Our research has also found that when your unique product story is told by a credible celebrity, then your WOM gets a great start. The pHCare TV commercial using Sharon Cuneta and KC demonstrated this. The pHCare value added was its pH balance formulation specifically suited for daily care control and elimination of unpleasant odor in the external genitalia. The overt benefit was that women, like Sharon, could use pHCare everyday. When this unique product store was told by a credible and sincere spokesperson, first by Sharon Cuneta, and later by her daughter, KC, word of mouth via text (including jokes about Sharon and pHcare) and person to person was ignited.

Controversy sparks WOM

What about in the more common situation where all you have is an ordinary product story? Our research data is beginning to show us that WOM can still do its work. That can happen when your ordinary product story is communicated in the context of a controversy or to provoke in fact a controversy. That gets consumers to also talk and to keep on talking.

But you have to be careful. The use of a controversy is risky. That was demonstrated to us by the local liquor billboard ad on Edsa asking: "Nakatikim ka na ba ng quince años (Have you tried a 15-year-old)?" which got national media coverage. Sure enough the provocation in this case geometrically raised the audience reach of the ad message. But the public and guardians of public interest reacted adversely and were driven to near violent indignation.

What's an example of a successful use of controversy? Mel Gibson's use of it to very effectively pre-sell his movie, "The Passion of the Christ," is a classic example. The product story is an old and known one. Months before the formal opening, Gibson immersed in a continuous series of controversies wherein the Jewish communities were mad at him, saying that the movie made them look bad; i.e. it was anti-semitic. E-mails circulated in Christian communities defending the movie. As a result, Gibson more than succeeded in getting both the moviegoing public and the media to talk again and again about the movie. It was a serial WOM that build the movie fans' suspended anticipation.

Of course, who can forget the controversy and the power of the word of mouth marketing that went into "The Da Vinci Code" book and movie. (Of course, once the movie was out, word of mouth worked against the movie because the product itself, as the critics said, was "boring" and "dragging." People still watched the movie, but also spread the word that the movie was second rate to the book.)

Keep your questions coming. Send them to us at MarketingRx@pldtDSL.net or text us at 0919-314-5412. God bless!

LIFESTYLE
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Contributing editors
Apples Aberin-Sadhwani
and Jenni Epperson

FASHION

Trendspotting

TWO IF BY SEA. On Isabel: camisole by Mango, pants by Topshop, boots by Zara, necklace by Salvatore Ferragamo, earrings by CRU at Pilar, bag and shades by Prada. On Kelly: cardigan, denim vest, plaid pants and belt by Mango, beanie, scarf and bag by Louis Vuitton, sunglasses by Topshop

She-devil

By Alex Y. Vergara

WHAT IF, AFTER LANDING a job "a million girls would die for," you soon realize that the same highly coveted position might just kill you? Would you stay a minute longer or would you endure a few more months of misery in the hopes that your sacrifices would be handsomely rewarded in the end?

Ambitious and eager-to-please Andrea Sachs, the hapless protagonist in the novel "The Devil Wears Prada," finds herself in such a bind as she caters to the cold and calculating Miranda Priestley's every whim.

Miranda, of course, is Andrea's impossible if über-fashionable boss (played with characteristic wit and ruthless efficiency by Meryl Streep in the movie version), who makes life a living hell for her within and outside the confines of the world's biggest and most influential fashion magazine.

Not only does Andrea have to deal with Miranda's outrageous orders—from securing the latest, unreleased Harry Potter books for Miranda's twins to trying to book her boss, who's trapped in the middle of a super hurricane in Miami, a non-existent flight to New York—she also has to face an army of tall, stylish and ultra-slim women for coworkers.

What she finds appalling is how easily Miranda can reduce these supposedly jaded and sophisticated New Yorkers to tears by merely staring at them.

In fact, the mere mention of Miranda's name seconds before she emerges from the elevator (yes, the underlings have a lookout on the ground floor) is enough to trigger panic attacks even among the office's most hardened individuals.

Miranda's grand entrance every single morning is a story in itself. It probably is akin to watching the parting of the Red Sea in "Ten Commandments," as terrified staffers scurry to evade the big boss. She's that intimidating!

As Andrea finds out soon enough, Miranda is the kind of boss you wouldn't want to be caught alone with in an elevator. She'd chew you alive without her uttering a single word. But as the assistant to the assistant, the poor girl has no choice but to deal with her throughout the day.

Headaches, back pains, missed meals and

SHE-DEVIL/ C2

LISTEN TO TEACHER. On Isabel: Top by The Black Shop, coat by Zara, pearl necklaces by Ensembles, suede bag by Gucci, ivory ring by Mango, earrings by China Doll, shades by Kenneth Cole. On Kelly: plaid trench coat by Mango, khaki dress by Mel Orlin available at Debbie Co, white blouse by Zara, rings by Mango, bag by Prada, shades by F&H

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free! French Baguette
For a minimum P1,000 single receipt purchase from any participating shops in Greenhills Shopping Center, you are entitled to one (1) Free French Baguette.
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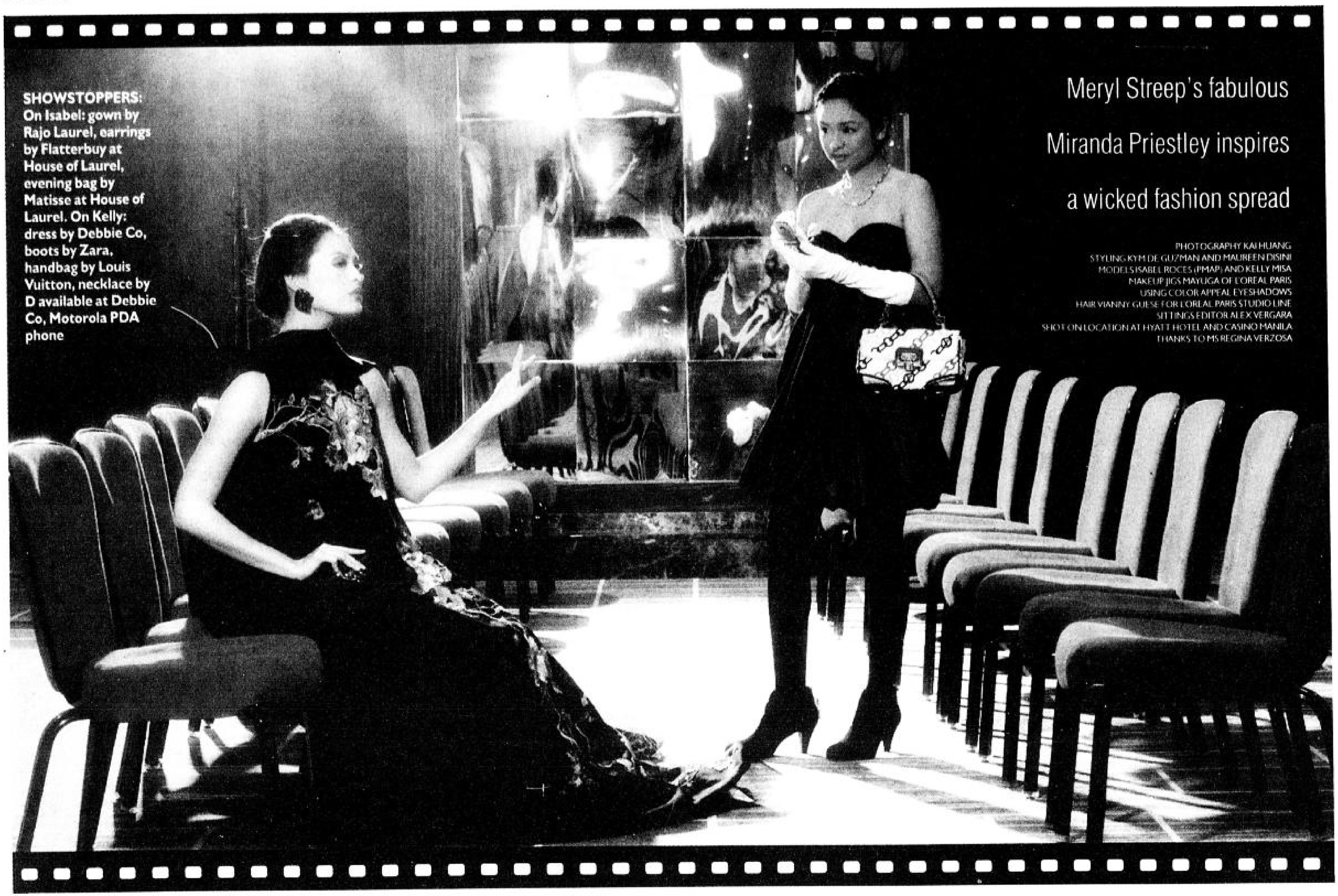
Ground Floor, Greenhills Theatre Mall
Délifrance®



SHOWSTOPPERS: On Isabel: gown by Rajo Laurel, earrings by Flatterbuy at House of Laurel, evening bag by Matisse at House of Laurel. On Kelly: dress by Debbie Co, boots by Zara, handbag by Louis Vuitton, necklace by D available at Debbie Co, Motorola PDA phone

Meryl Streep's fabulous Miranda Priestley inspires a wicked fashion spread

PHOTOGRAPHY KAI HUANG
STYLING KYM DE GUZMAN AND MAUREEN DISINI
MODELS ISABEL ROCES (PMAP) AND KELLY MISA
MAKEUP JIGS MAYUGA OF L'OREAL PARIS
USING COLOR APPEAL EYESHADOWS
HAIR VIANNY GUESE FOR L'OREAL PARIS STUDIO LINE
SITTINGS EDITOR ALEX VERGARA
SHOT ON LOCATION AT HYATT HOTEL AND CASINO MANILA
THANKS TO MS REGINA VERZOSA

She-devil

From page C1

upset stomachs are among the many job-related hazards Andrea has to deal with. To make matters worse, she soon loses her boyfriend Nate (Alex in the book) to Miranda's demands, as they often require her to work late into the night and on weekends.

In the end, Andrea (played by the now grownup Anne Hathaway) realizes that not even the prospect of getting Miranda's endorsement to any prestigious magazine of her choosing is worth the price of her health, her dignity and her soul. We're not saying anything more lest we spoil your reading and/or viewing pleasure.

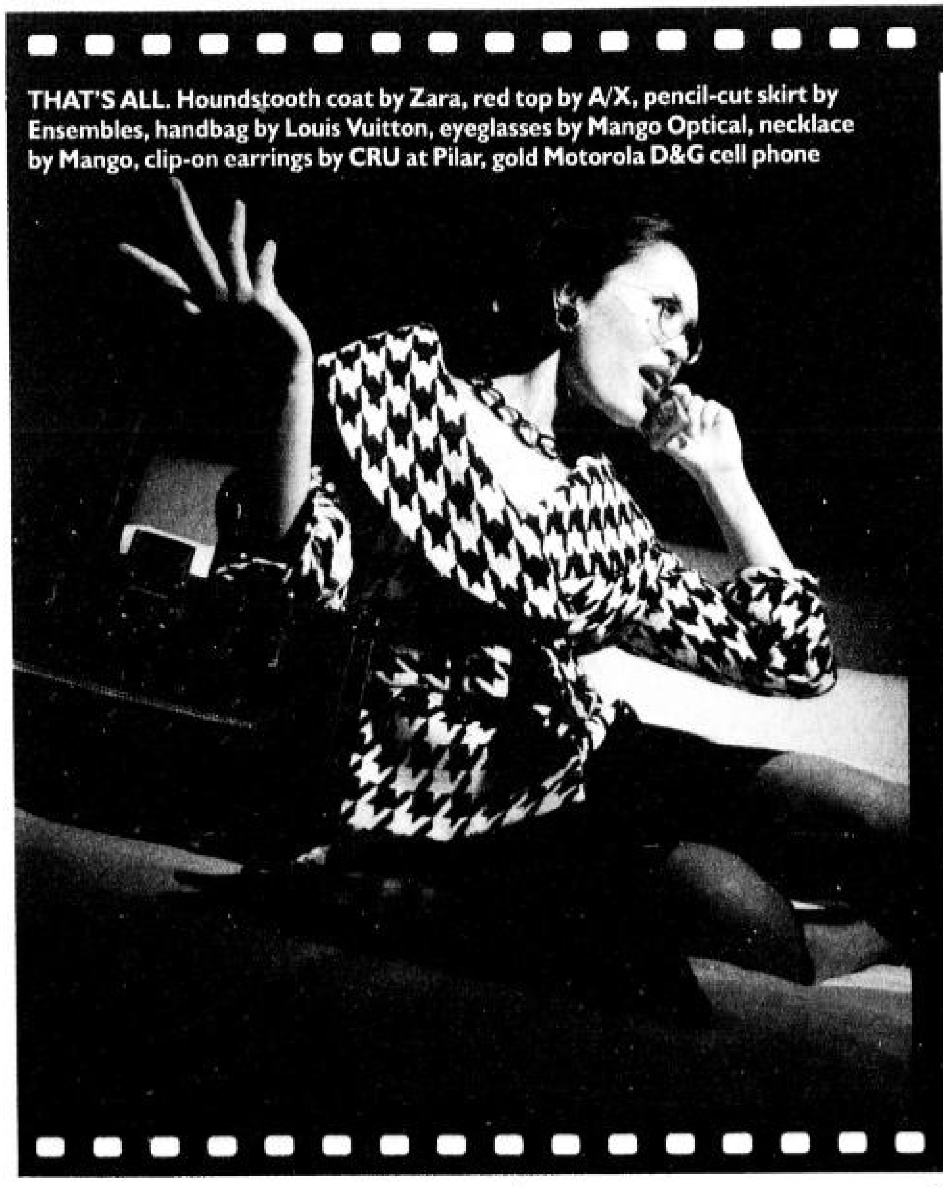
With this alleged true-to-life take on Vogue editor in chief Anna Wintour (oops, there goes our chance of getting asked to write for the magazine) as our inspiration, INQUIRER Lifestyle breathes life into several images depicting the demanding boss and her harried and overstretched assistant as they go about life in a fictional glossy (*see related story on certain dos and don'ts of office dressing*).

Any similarities to actual persons, living or dead, Filipino or foreign, victim or villain, are purely coincidental (don't give yourselves too much credit, ladies). As Miranda loves to say after barking orders to Andrea from across her huge desk or over the phone, "That's all."

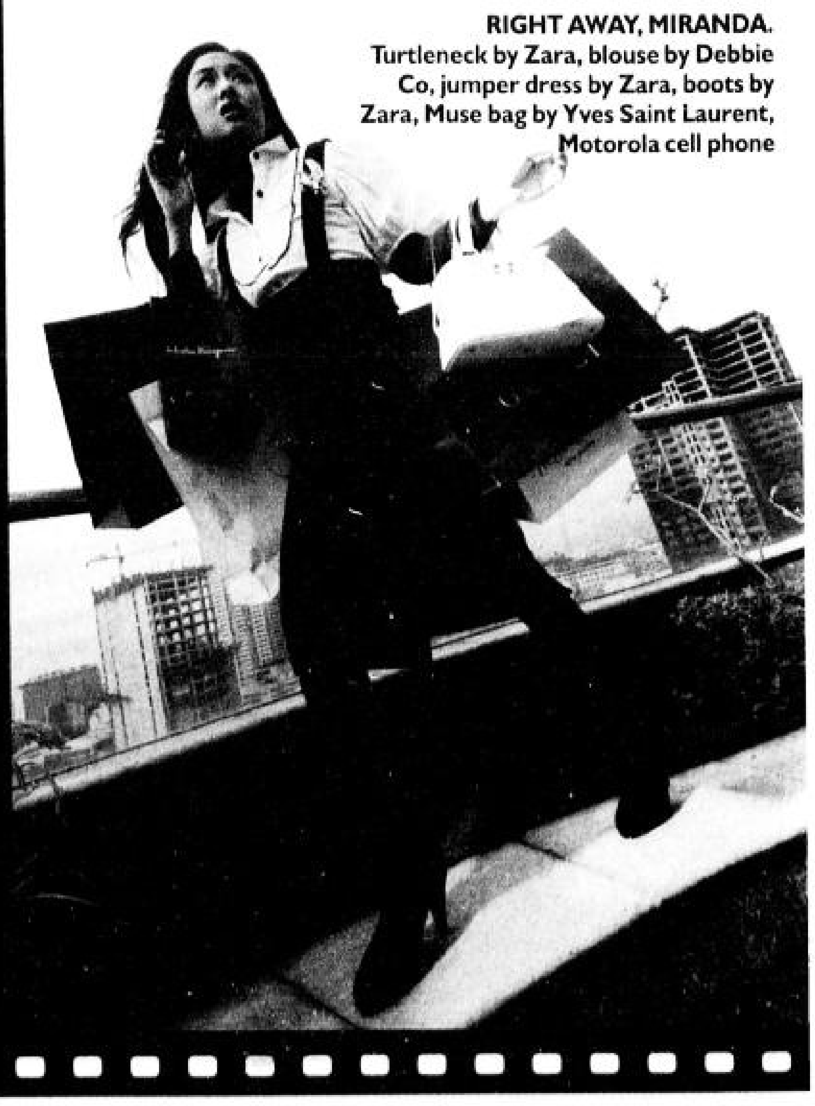
E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

FOLLOW THE LEADER. On Isabel: coat by Zara, gown by Jun Escario, bag by Aranaz, earrings by Felicity. On Kelly: blazer by CK, blouse by Mango, shorts by CK, bag by Gucci, necklace available at Debbie Co

WOMEN of substance Andrea and Miranda wear L'Oreal's Color Appeal eye shadow.



THAT'S ALL. Houndstooth coat by Zara, red top by A/X, pencil-cut skirt by Ensembles, handbag by Louis Vuitton, eyeglasses by Mango Optical, necklace by Mango, clip-on earrings by CRU at Pilar, gold Motorola D&G cell phone



RIGHT AWAY, MIRANDA. Turtleneck by Zara, blouse by Debbie Co, jumper dress by Zara, boots by Zara, Muse bag by Yves Saint Laurent, Motorola cell phone

Play vs display

You should have separate outfits for work and for leisure

TAKE IT FROM ETIQUETTE AND IMAGE CONsultant Lia Bernardo, editor in chief of Metro Society, everyone forms an opinion of you 30 seconds after he or she sees you.

"Since almost 90 percent of your body is wrapped in apparel," she says, "what you choose to wear to the office will speak volumes about how you want others to perceive you. First impressions can make or break an opportunity."

Your decision on what type of clothes to buy for work will depend greatly on two factors: the company's dress code and the type of industry you move around in.

"People in advertising, particularly those in creative, have a different image to project from bank employees," says Bernardo. "No matter where you work, however, it's important to remember that you're dressing based on the image your company wants you to project."

Not a few people, she notes, dress for work the way they would for a weekend luncheon or a trip to the mall. This shouldn't be the case. You should have separate outfits for work and for leisure.

Again, there are no hard and fast rules when it comes to corporate dressing. But as far as a traditional dresser like Bernardo is concerned, here are some cardinal rules to dress by as you work your way up the corporate ladder.

- Women can't generally go wrong with a classic black suit.
- Those with yellow undertones should invest in brown, beige, hunter green and maroon business suits, while those with blue undertones should go for navy blue, black and various shades of gray.
- Women can spice up the basic business suit by pairing it with a bold-colored blouse or top.
- An orange top looks great either with a brown or beige suit, while an aqua top is perfect for a black one. Fuchsia and hot-pink tops are best paired with a gray suit.
- Even the most basic office wear can achieve some zing with the right accessories, but don't overdo it. A pair of nondescript stud earrings or a set of pearl earrings and a medium, single-strand necklace (not the long, multistrand Coco Chanel variety, take note) are some of your best bets. Leave the hoop earrings to Miranda Priestly.
- Short shorts, tubes sans blazers, sheer blouses, tops with plunging necklines and strappy high heels have no place in a "normal" office.
- Printed dresses are best worn to a cocktail party than to the boardroom.
- If they want to be taken more seriously, men should banish ties with cartoon characters, huge floral prints and shocking colors from the office. Wearing even the most expensive designer tie with a short-sleeved polo shirt is a big no-no.
- If men find the basic business suit too expensive or too impractical, they can invest instead in linen barongs in such neutral shades as white, beige, dove gray and light blue. They go well with navy blue, brown, dark gray and black pants.

What about the lady boss?

"She should set the standard for her team as to what image she would like them to portray," says Bernardo. "Looking professional is synonymous to understated elegance."

For the ambitious underling, it pays not to overdo it. Any attempts to eclipse the boss will only get you noticed for the wrong reasons.

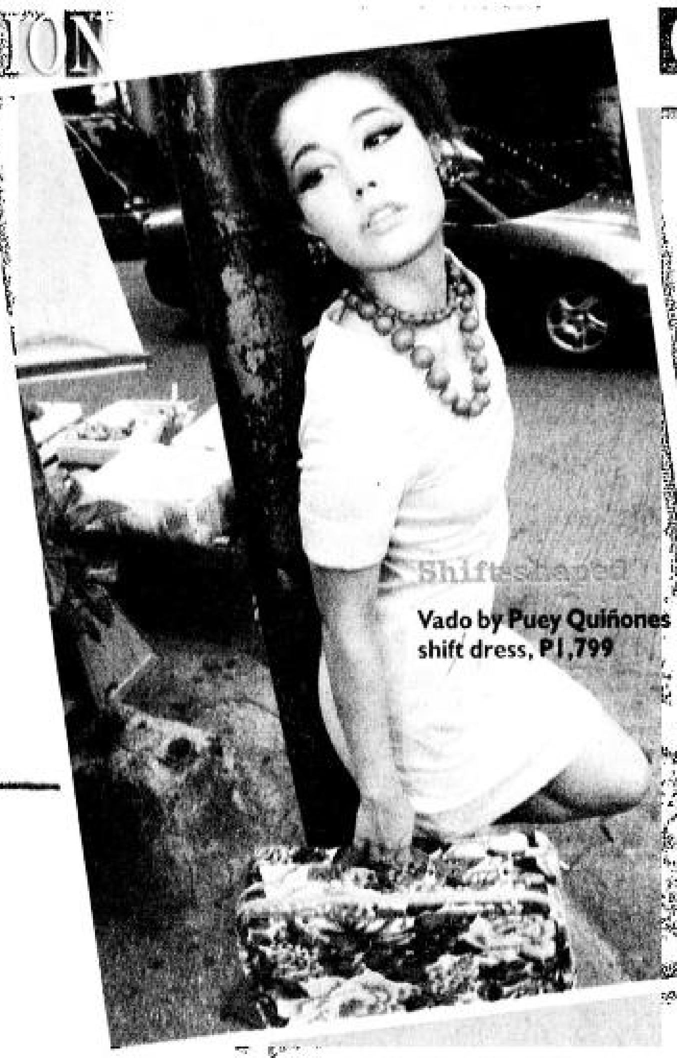
"If your boss doesn't seem to embody professionalism, you can set the standard by doing so subtly," says Bernardo.

Alex Y. Vergara

Winner by a neck
Vado by Puey Quiñones
halter-neck dress,
P1,899

How low can you go?
Vado by Puey Quiñones
zebra print dress, P1,649

Some like it semi-haute!



Shift shaped
Vado by Puey Quiñones
shift dress, P1,799

Mabuhay!

Jenni Epperson

THE NEW WORD IN FASHION these days is demi-couture. While the fashion [illegible] declared that haute couture is [illegible] leading group of young designers like Martin Margiela, Nicholas Ghesquière, Olivier Theyskens and Alber Elbaz, whose skills can rival [illegible] the best couturiers in the world [illegible] making [illegible] demi-couture that [illegible]

[illegible]

Demi-couture is the answer to the gaping hole between haute couture and prêt-à-porter.

[illegible]

Fit for the future
Vado by Puey Quiñones
graphic dress, P1,899

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1830, series of 2006

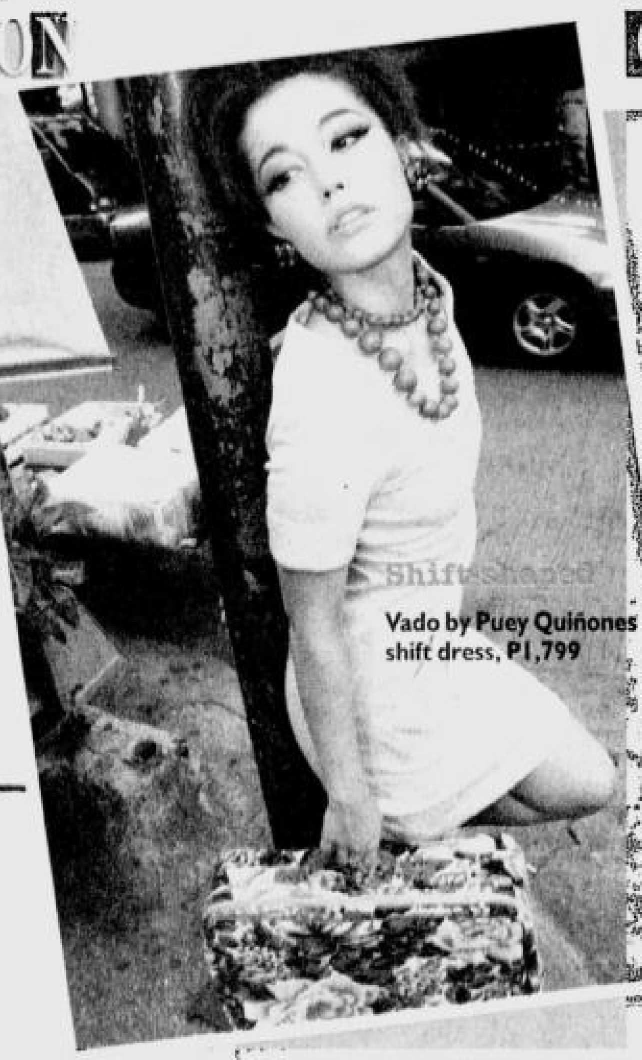
Winner by a neck

Vado by Puey Quiñones halter-neck dress, P1,899

Some like it semi-haute!

How low can you go?

Vado by Puey Quiñones zebra print dress, P1,649



Shift-shaped

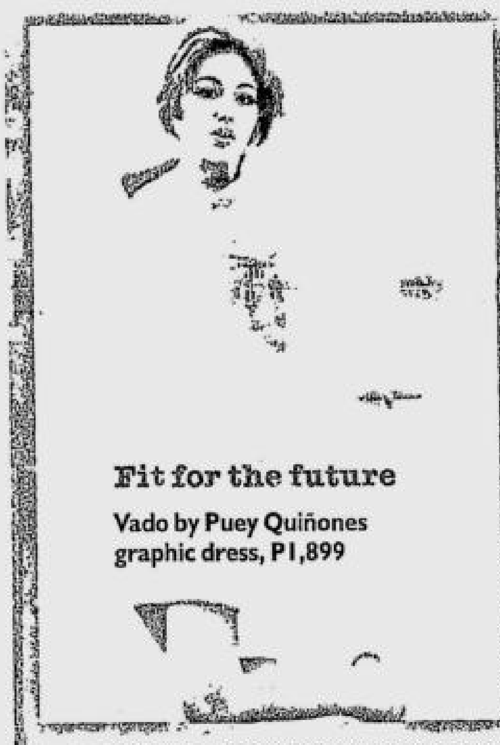
Vado by Puey Quiñones shift dress, P1,799

Mabuhay!

Jenni Epperson

THE NEW WORD IN FASH[illegible] these days [illegible] While the fashion [illegible] declared that haute couture [illegible] group of young designers like Martin Margiela, Nicolas Ghesquiere, [illegible]

[illegible]



Fit for the future

Vado by Puey Quiñones graphic dress, P1,899

> Demi-couture is the answer to the gaping hole between haute couture and pret-a-porter.

SURPLUS SHOP
FASHION FOR LESS

NOW OPEN
MEGAMALL
AT GROUND LEVEL, BLDG. B
NORTH EDSA
AT THIRD LEVEL, THE BLOCK

FREE two P50 cash coupons for every single receipt purchase worth P500 *

P50

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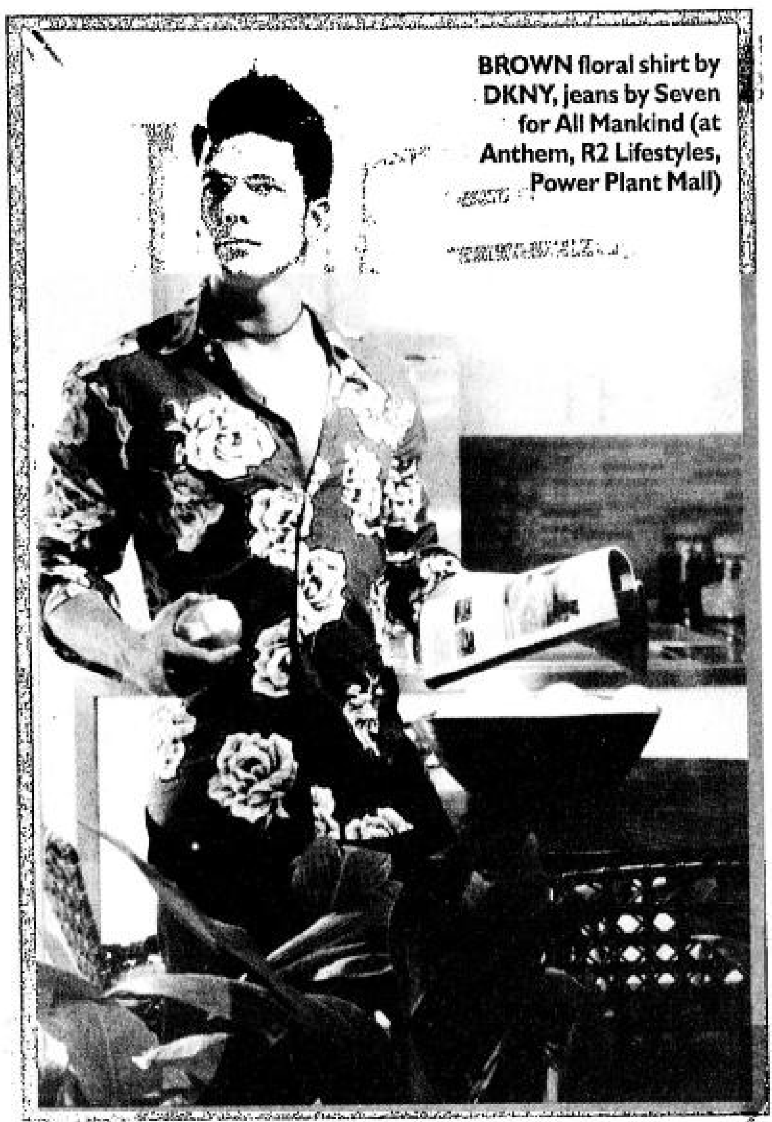
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1830, series of 2006

SILK shirt and pants by Calvin Klein, black lace-up shoes by Traffic (at Power Plant Mall)

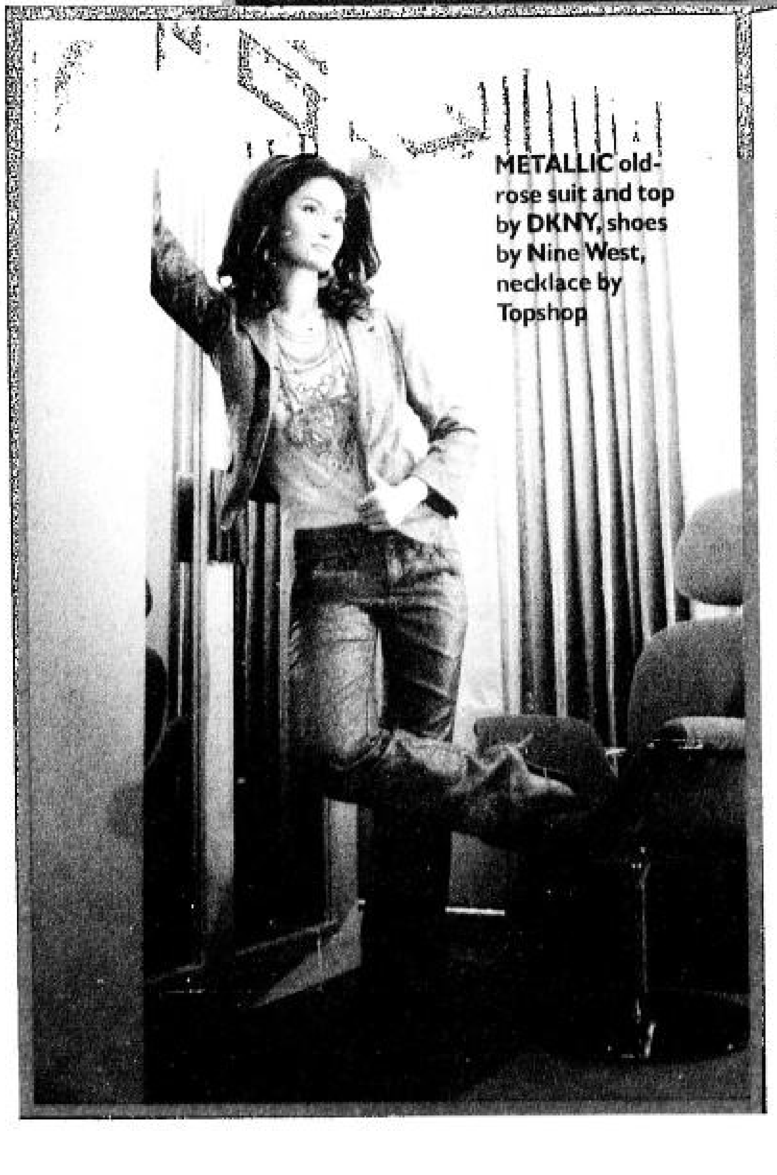
BRONZE dress by Anne Klein, shoes by Nine West


BROWN floral shirt by DKNY, jeans by Seven for All Mankind (at Anthem, R2 Lifestyles, Power Plant Mall)

Mile-high club

A beautiful young couple, first-rate digs, fine clothes, romance. Ah, the good life!

ON HIM: shirt by Calvin Klein, pants by Zara Man. On her: top by Kenneth Cole, skirt by Zara


METALLIC old-rose suit and top by **DKNY**, shoes by Nine West, necklace by Topshop

By Cheche V. Moral

THERE'S AN ABSURD AND acutely perverse pleasure to be had from watching the rich and famous, spying on their every move and soaking up each tiny bit of mundane information reported—um, gossiped—about them.

We're all guilty of this insatiable curiosity about how the wealthy live their luxurious lives behind closed doors—what they have for breakfast, whom they share it with, how they behave, if they burp.

There's also this obsessive interest in their appearance. Their couture wrappings can boost cosmetics sales. Since you can't afford the fur, you buy the lipstick—makeup becomes the equalizer. It's a simplistic approach to bridging the social divide.

A fashion house may present the trend, but it's not until it dresses up a famous person and is photographed in it, that it gets pop cred. Then the cash register starts ringing. It's a fairly simple exercise that keeps everyone happy, including the celebrity-obsessed consumer, who's only too happy to part with her hard-earned chips for some measure of vicarious living.

Famous people lament the downside of the life of fame and material privilege they inhabit. It's a dilemma lesser mortals may never understand but, yes, celebs will tell you, it's not easy living in a fishbowl, the fine trappings notwithstanding. Even as these same privileged individuals often seem to feed this fixation they claim to loathe.

Others say they don't crave—and even balk at—the attention. But maybe it comes with the territory, the sickening trade-off to their fortunes. And the prying public feeds on it.

So, how do high-flyers live, really?

INQUIRER Fashion attempts to approximate, through these photographs, the extraordinary existence many of us will live only in our dreams. Think Brangelina minus the tots. A beautiful young couple, first-rate digs, fine clothes, romance. Ah, the good life!

The Glass House, the model unit of One Rockwell, the latest development in that posh Makati enclave, provides us with the perfect venue. Note, though, that the glass-wall rendering of the unit isn't so much intended to indulge voyeuristic yearnings as it is a unique concept that's aimed at giving potential buyers a better appreciation of the high-rise property's so-called Z-loft.

Go ahead. Take a peek. Scrutinize. What you see here you won't read in the tabloids. This is privileged information.

Email the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph

ON HIM: Gray shirt by Kenneth Cole, pants by Zara Man. On her: Sequined minidress by Calvin Klein, shoes by Nine West

PHOTOGRAPHY WILLY SAW (WWW.WILLYSAW.COM)
STYLING MILLET ARZAGA
HAIR AND MAKEUP LOURD RAMOS OF EMPHASIS SALON
USING THE BODY SHOP COSMETICS
AND BEDHEAD HAIR PRODUCTS
SHOT AT THE GLASS HOUSE MODEL UNIT OF ONE ROCKWELL
(CALL 8906888 OR VISIT WWW.E-ROCKWELL.COM)

JULIET & Mimi of DAACS at Sari-Sari top with turquoise/coral beads, to order. Tweeds bubble tunic, P750, and bolero, P950. Get Happy necklace (used as bracelet), P980, available at select Rustans stores. CMG shoes, P2,499 and bronze cuff, P445

RAY Kuan leopard-print dress with green plaid bottom, to order (0906-4430108/Anthology, R2 Power Plant Mall). Topshop necklace, P1,145 and bronze cuff, P445

Neo-panther is not just for Dolce and Gabbana bombshells or those stuck in a 1980s fashion rut

VERVE by Anne Bichelmeir leopard print four-in-one dress (used as cape), P1,195. Anthology animal-print tube top, P1,000. Debenhams cropped jeans, P2,950. Get Happy earrings, P395

Prints purr-fect

APPLES' PICKINGS

Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

THEY SAY IT'S NOT FOR everyone. But faithful fans of exotic leopard print, also known as neo-panther because it now comes in different colors and styles, will beg to disagree.

The potentially but not necessarily tarty print is now one of the hottest trends for fall 2006. Designer brands from bombshell favorite Dolce and Gabbana to fashion leader Louis Vuitton featured modern (far-from-the-'80s-variety!) pieces covered in the sassy animal print.

There are various ways to wear the trend to suit different personalities. Daring fashionistas can go all out by donning major pieces like leopard-print dresses or coat dresses. Stylish Kate Moss was spotted wearing a knee-length head-turner of a coat. The supermodel was a stunner, but understandably, not everyone can get away with such an "in-your-face" approach.

Stylist Millet Arzaga, however, challenges one and all to be bold and brave by mixing the print with strong colors like cobalt blue or red or even with other prints. "Print on print can look good, as long as there is still harmony in color or design," she says.

Meanwhile, those who are hesitant to try out the cat craze can still do so in small doses. A scarf casually thrown around one's shoulders or worn as a headband is a subtle way to inject the trend into a basic wardrobe.

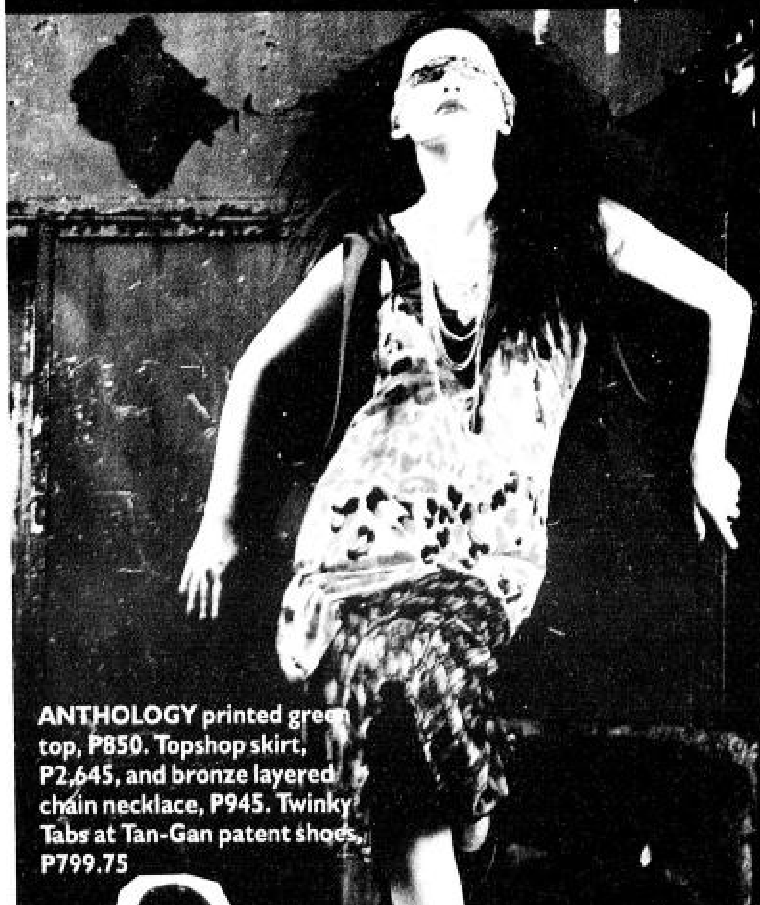
Millet recommends minimal touches such as a neo-panther collar, hem or cuff or the use of accessories like a leopard-print bag, shoes, belt or watch, which can provide much-needed oomph.

Those with money to burn can run to LV for its ultra-stylish leopard print and monogram bag, which is probably the best animal print bag this season. Fashionistas-on-a-budget, on the other hand, can check out stores like Celine, Mango, Pretty Fit, Janylin or Schu for more affordable finds.

Mixing such a strong trend with understated wardrobe classics is also an option. An item of clothing, say a leopard print shell, matched with basic pieces like a tailored suit is a good starting point. A leopard-print skirt matched with classic pearls and pumps is ironic and interesting. For a more restrained approach, muted prints create the look in a less obvious but still ultra-stylish way.

Leopard print or neo-panther is not just for Dolce and Gabbana bombshells or those stuck in a 1980s fashion rut. With a little imagination and daring, anyone can easily partake in this purr-fectly fun, feline fashion trend.

E-mail the author at afashion@inquirer.com.ph



ANTHOLOGY printed green top, P850. Topshop skirt, P2,645, and bronze layered chain necklace, P945. Twinky Tabs at Tan-Gan patent shoes, P799.75

MARIO Colmenares leopard halter dress with beaded neckline, to order (0917-5555622). Salabianca brooch, P999. Topshop brocade miniskirt, P2,295. Celine bag, P1,799

PHOTOGRAPHY ERIK LIONGOREN/STUDIO MARICHI (WWW.KRIKFOLIO.COM)
STYLING MILLET ARZAGA
HAIR & MAKEUP GEORGE BANTOLINO/
SIR GEORGE SALON BY MARY PAULINE/4133596/3745471
HAIR ASSISTANT LERMA/SIR GEORGE SALON BY MARY PAULINE
MODEL KATHY MOYA
THANKS TO LITO PEREZ/CAMP SUKI (7250819)

Leopard leap

From page C6

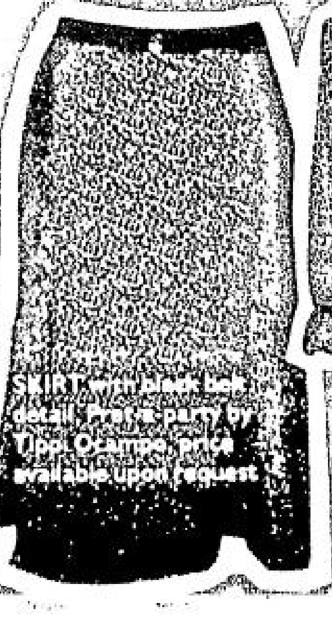
a neutral palette. But if you're young and/or a Japanese teenager, then you can wear this with every hue on the color wheel!

Keep it proportional to your body frame. Leopard, just like any print, should be kept proportional to your body frame. A small frame can handle only a sprinkle of animal print, while a fuller or taller figure may wear it as a coat or top.

Wear this with feminine and clean hair and makeup. Imagine smokey eyes, red lips (and nails) and a cobra-lioness hairstyle with anything animal print. You get the picture. The look screams S-E-X and C-H-E-A-P and will never work on anyone, unless you want to look like an underpaid hooker.

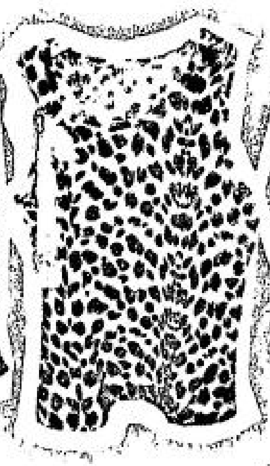
[illegible] Proportion is key: small prints for small frames and bigger prints for bigger frames

DIANE Von Furstenberg dress, Fall '06 collection



SKIRT with black belt detail, Pret-a-party by Tippi Ocampo, price available upon request

SHEER top with gartered sleeves and bottom, Salsa trends, P980



TOP with lace ribbon detail, Wildflower from Crossings, about P800

CAFTAN, Patbout, P850

DRESS with ruffles, Wildflower from Crossings, P1,200

I want a new toy.

You need school books.

Finally, a card for all things family. PSBank MasterCard. Use it for the first time and get 2 FREE movie tickets for you and your loved one.

PSBank MasterCard Strictly Family Matters

PSBank
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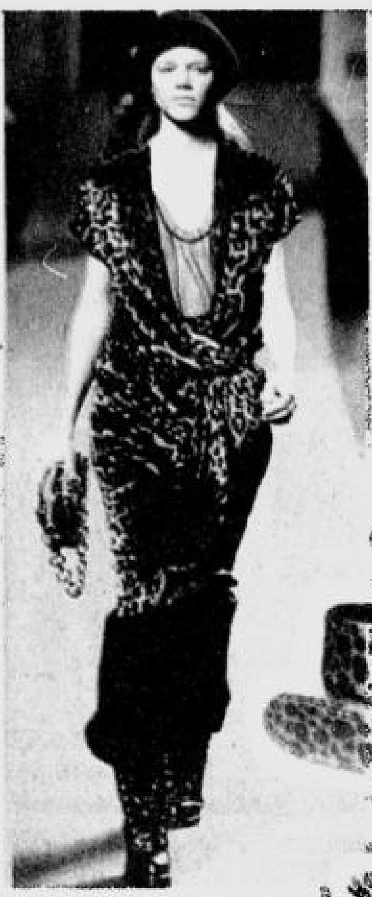
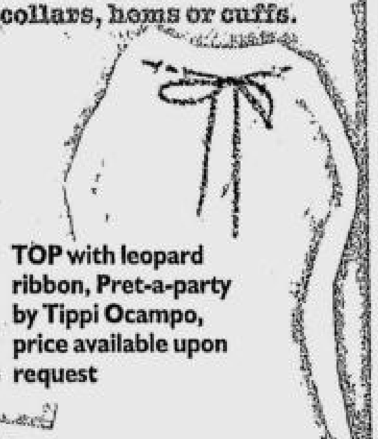
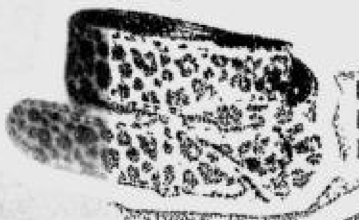
APPLY NOW! Call 8 700 777

So how do you wear animal print without looking like a sex-siren wannabe or a fashion victim?


PINK leopard from Marc Jacobs Fall '06 collection

[illegible] Try it out in small doses through the use of accessories or little details like ribbons, collars, hems or cuffs.


TOP with leopard ribbon, Pret-a-party by Tippi Ocampo, price available upon request


BELT, SM Dept. Store, P99.75

PUMPS, Possibility at Crossings, P1,200

Leopard leap

By Donna Cuna-Pita
Contributor

THERE'S JUST NO GETTING away from it anymore. Every year, we see touches of animal print on Fall runways as people find the need to warm up in hot prints and sexy fur.

But how do you get the look without looking like a sex-siren wannabe or a fashion victim? Read on and see how leopard can work phoarrr you!

A little goes a long way. If you're just a starter in the animal (print) race, try it out in small doses first: a leopard-print slim belt, ballet flats or even just a wide headband. This way you get used to the look first and appreciate the instant fashion punch that the print provides.

One golden rule to remember: You can never, ever wear this print from head to toe! Unless you want to be chased by the urban version of the hungry lion—the icky, ever-ready-to-pounce D.O.M. Ewww.

Wear it with neutrals. Animal print looks great with cream, black and white. The tempered and classic effect of these neutral colors will subtly highlight and play up your print. But if you're more adventurous, bright colors can also look great with leopard (as seen on the pink Marc Jacobs jacket) as these will lend a playful and youthful contrast. If you're over 30, stick to

LEOPARD/ C5

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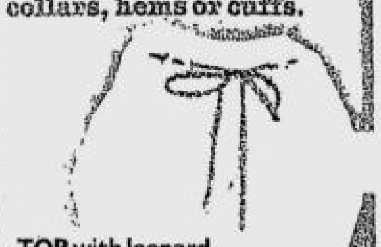
PINK leopard from Marc Jacobs Fall '06 collection

Try it out in small doses through the use of accessories or little details like ribbons, collars, hems or cuffs.



TOP with leopard ribbon, Pret-a-party by Tippi Ocampo, price available upon request

BELT, SM Dept. Store, P99.75

PUMPS, Possibility at Crossings, P1,200

[illegible] leap

By Donna Cuna-Pita
Contributor

THERE'S JUST NO GETting away from it anymore. Every year, we see touches of animal print on Fall runways as people find the need to warm up in hot prints and sexy fur.

But how do you get the look without looking like a sex-siren wannabe or a fashion victim? Read on and see how leopard can work phoarrr you!

A little goes a long way. If you're just a starter in the animal (print) race, try it out in small doses first: a leopard-print slim belt, ballet flats or even just a wide headband. This way you get used to the look first and appreciate the instant fashion punch that the print provides.

One golden rule to remember: You can never, ever wear this print from head to toe! Unless you want to be chased by the urban version of the hungry lion—the icky, ever-ready-to-pounce D.O.M. Ewww.

Wear it with neutrals. Animal print looks great with cream, black and white. The tempered and classic effect of these neutral colors will subtly highlight and play up your print. But if you're more adventurous, bright colors can also look great with leopard (as seen on the pink Marc Jacobs jacket) as these will lend a playful and youthful contrast. If you're over 30, stick to

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RETAKE OF PRECEDING FRAME

Contributing Editor
Ria Francisco-Prieto

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

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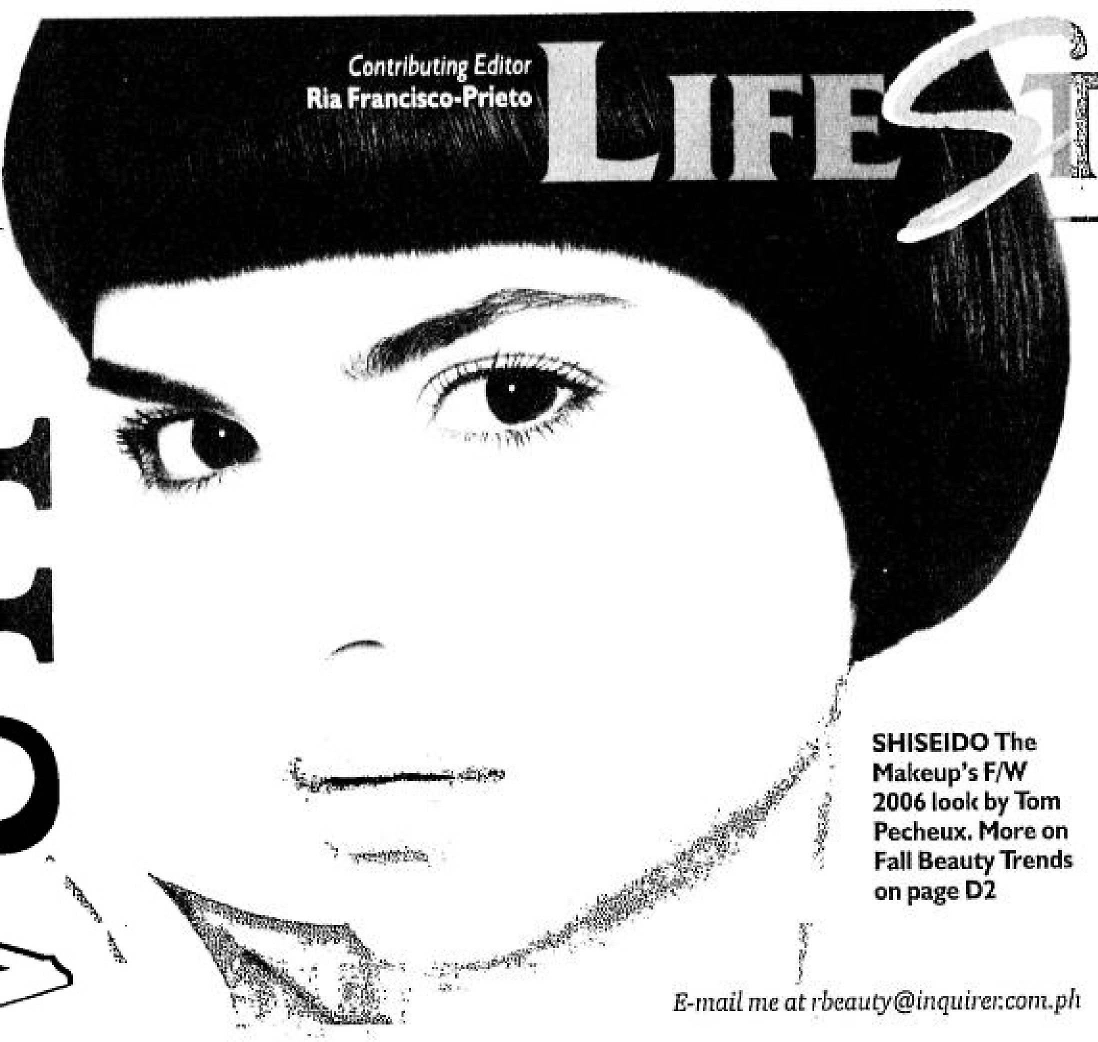

SHISEIDO The Makeup's F/W 2006 look by Tom Pecheux. More on Fall Beauty Trends on page D2

E-mail me at rbeauty@inquirer.com.ph

BEAUTY MUST TRY

The right tools are a girl's best friend. But what do you do when you're scared of using a lash curler? Have your lashes curled at Facial Care Center. They'll stay curled for at least three weeks, guaranteed!

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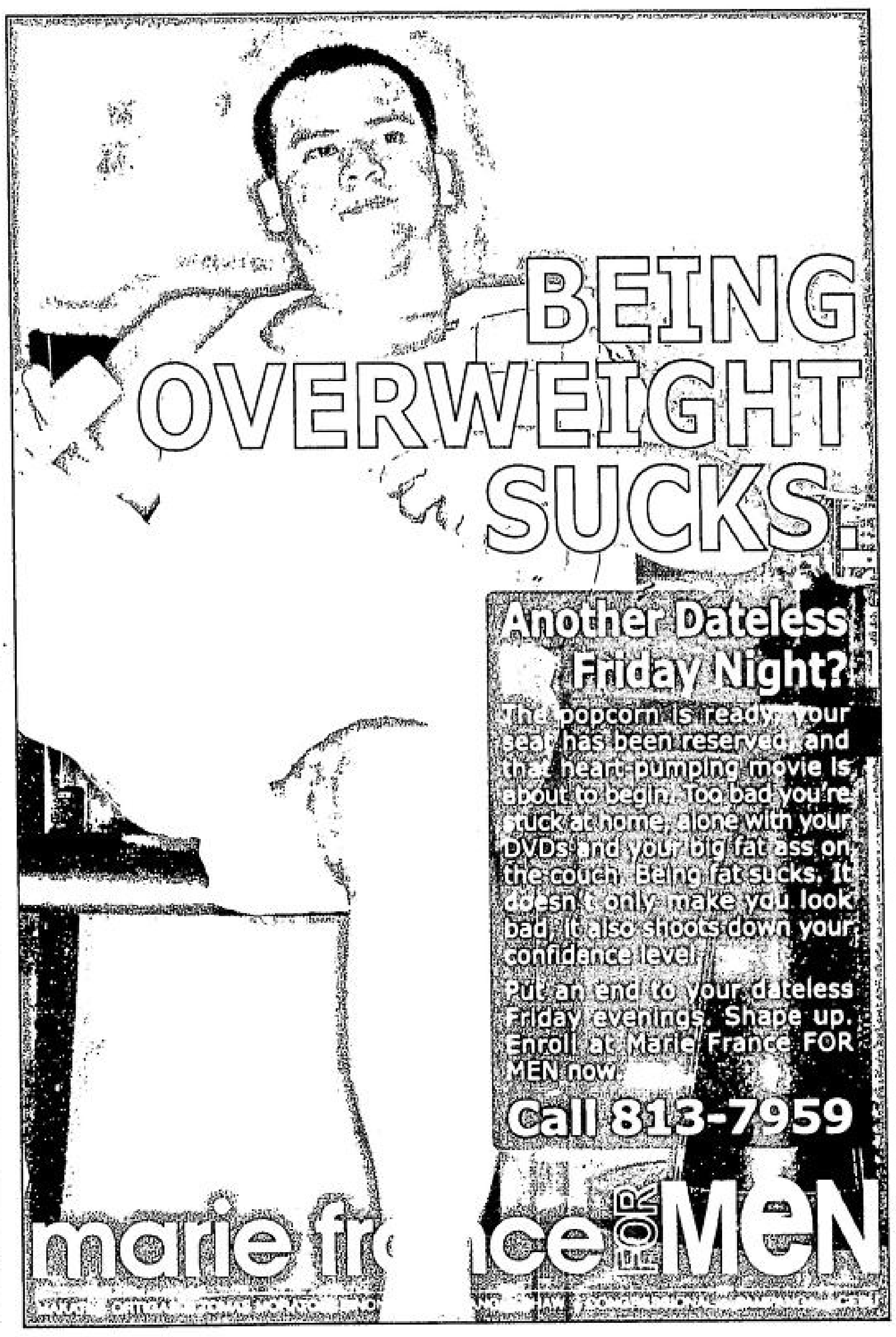
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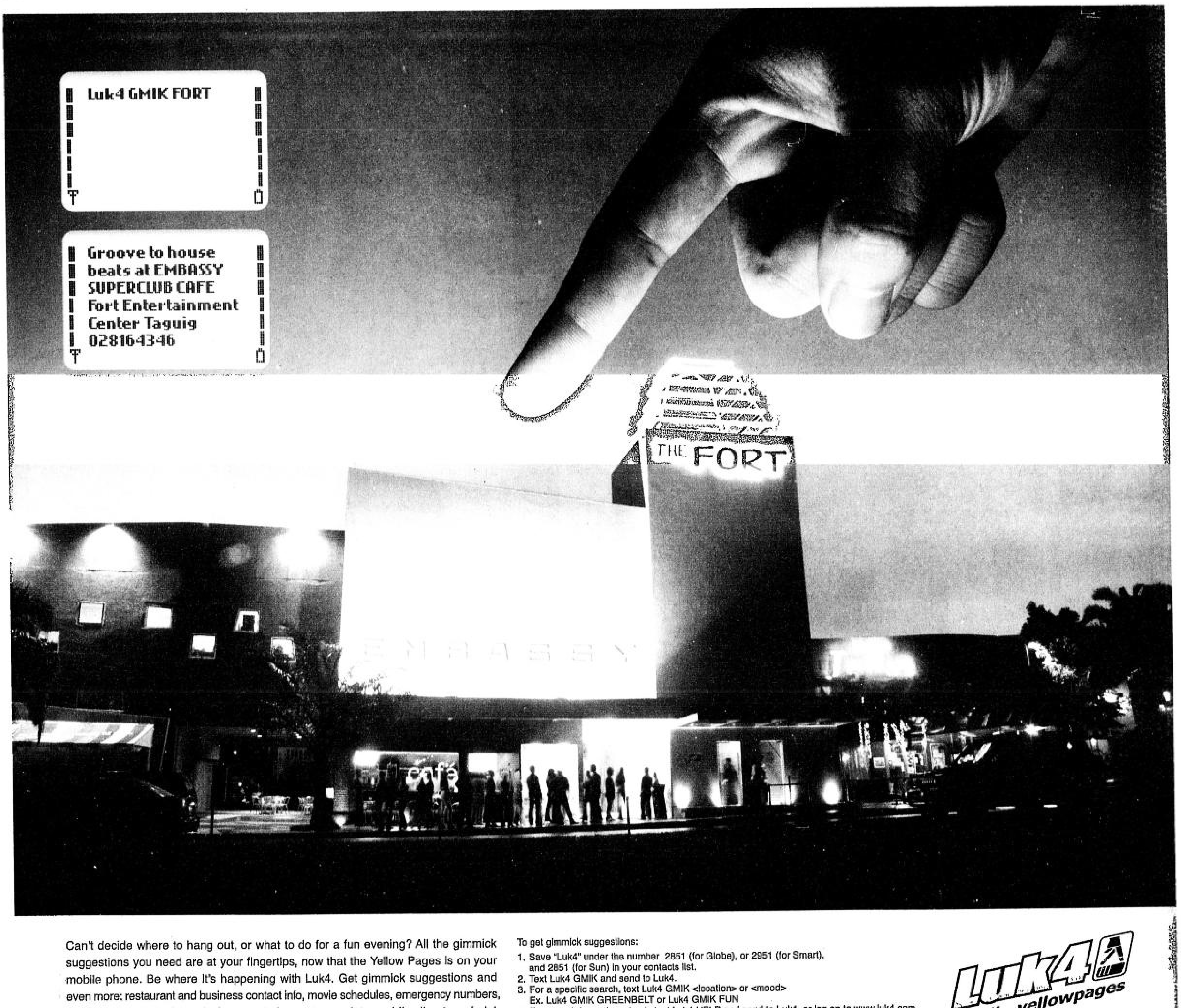
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A is for Anne

KNOCKOUT!

Ria Francisco-Prieto

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STYLING
RIA FRANCISCO-PRIETO
MAKEUP
XENG ZULUETA OF SHU UEMURA USING FILIGREE
HAIR
NANTE CONCON USING KIEHL'S

I WAS STYLING FOR A MAGAZINE cover shoot and the cover happened to be Anne Curtis. I like working with Anne because she is so easy to work with and is surprisingly bubbly.

So while makeup was being done, I asked her several questions about beauty. Get to know one of ABS-CBN's most beautiful stars in this one-on-one:

Biggest beauty no-nos. Don't sleep with your makeup on. And as much as possible, don't use any makeup, it's not really good. Pluck your eyebrows. Underarm hair is a big turnoff. Never pop a pimple. And don't be caught with dirty nails.

Beauty blooper. The first time I waxed I got burnt and got a red patch. I learned that before applying wax, one should test the heat on the tip of the finger. Better yet, have it professionally done.

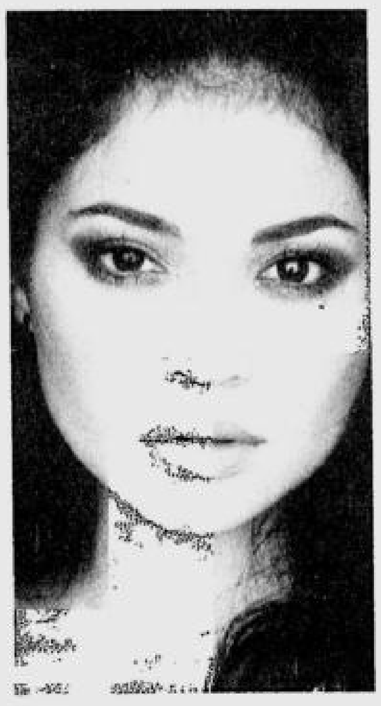
Beauty mistake. I noticed that once I started using deodorant, I actually started getting sweaty.

Who do you find beautiful? Audrey Hepburn and Mischa Barton. They both look so elegant, and I love that they are simple yet classy.

Three items you can't live without. Shu Uemura cleansing oil, which I need in my job to cleanse my face of makeup. Philosophy's cheek tint to add some color on my face, and lip balm. I consider myself very low-maintenance.

Latest beauty purchase. Mascara. I need it for work.

Best beauty tool. My Shu Uemura curl lash and brushes.



Fave makeup artist. A lot! We have really good makeup artists so I'm lucky.

Fave scents. D&G, Kenzo, Anna Sui, and a lot of yummy scents from Bath and Body Works.

Makeup kit must-haves for work. MAC and concealer, Shu Uemura eye shadow, Lancôme lip tint. I actually have different brands. I like trying out and discovering new makeup products. It's part of the fun!

Big boobs or a big butt? I don't know. I don't really want to go for a big chest, so I guess I would have to go for the butt.

What are your beauty fears? Having a scar on my face.

Are you scared of aging? No, it's the most natural thing.

Would you go under the knife for beauty? No, I think it's a waste of money.

When was the last time you felt pretty? This morning.

You feel prettiest when... People compliment me.

What makes you beautiful? I don't know, you tell me, haha! People say my smile.

What do you like most about yourself? My protruding tooth. It may sound funny but it's true. It's one flaw that I love because it adds character.

What do you do when you're feeling ugly? I don't go out. But honestly, I do everything in my power to make it seem otherwise.

Best compliment you've received. When my dad quoted something from an Audrey Hepburn movie for me. He said, "You look quite lovely." That was from "My Fair Lady."

HOLIDAY BEAUTY TRENDS

Fall's positives

By Cheche V. Moral

WHEN MAKEUP BRANDS WHIP up palettes awash in luster and shine, it means the season of decadence is again upon us.

That's exactly what beauty junkies will find in cosmetic counters beginning September—gloss, sparkle and shimmer in every cosmetic form. Even the softest neutral shades are suffused with flecks of tinsel. Skin is sure to get a luxurious burnish.

But the trend shouldn't set off distress signals to the color-shy.

Bobbi Brown, for instance, revisits the much-loved no-makeup makeup look with a delicious palette of rich, cocoa hues—the brand's warm foil to the nippy days ahead.

Shiseido The Makeup hinges on the porcelain fineness of a woman's complexion, providing just a delicate flush of color to the cheeks and the lips. It's a fresh, subtle look that goes well with raven locks.

Another Japanese brand, Awake, focuses on texture and volume by going easy on the color. Its shimmery pastel palette is akin to fresh snowflakes, intended for daytime and evening looks. Lip colors are equally subdued—no loud reds here, thank you—but the lacquers' glassy finish is meant to create fuller, sexy lips.

Restrained

Lips are also restrained at Laura Mercier, but the eye shimmers are another matter. Tiny tubs of glittery powder provide starlit tinsel-bathed eyelids.

NARS, meanwhile, assumes a much warmer autumn tone, with a new orangey-pink blush, and lip pencils in the shades of cognac and milk-laced coffee.

The French brands are bolder in their colorations. Chanel's key colors are vivid pink and black, a nod to the couture house's color

FALL'S/ D3

FRENCH CONNECTION. Guerlain's fall look (left) and its F/W 2006 makeup collection

COCOA NUTS! Bobbi Brown's Fall Chocolate Look (right) and its limited-edition Lip Duo and Chocolate Eye Palette

ULTRAMODERN. Anne Watanabe wears NARS' India Song duo eye shadow, Oasis blush, Marina lip pencil

PORCELAIN SHEEN. Shiseido The Makeup's Dual Balancing Foundation, Peach Concealer and Rosy Flush Accentuating Stick

PRODUCT PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA

CHITO VECINA

FACTORY GIRL. MAC'S Mod '60s fall look calls for pale lip colors, intense contrast eye shadows and shimmery face powder (above).

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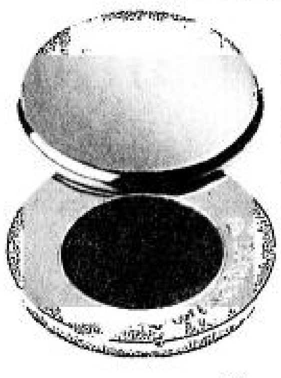
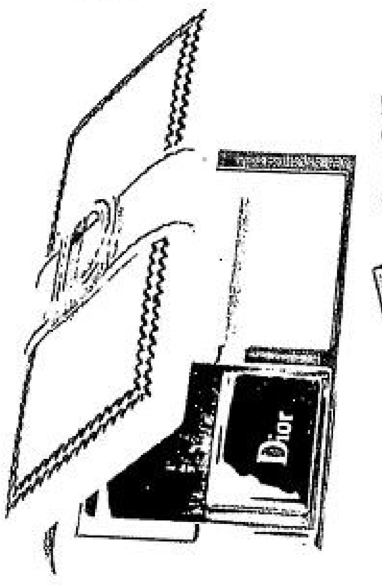
STAR-STRUCK EYES, DOWN-TO-EARTH LIPS. Laura Mercier's Stick Gloss and Mineral Eye Powders



NORTHERN LIGHT. Lancôme's Ellipse, a limited-edition eye color in a metallic disc

COUTURE MAKEUP. Chanel's Pink Lamé, an iridescent eye shimmer created exclusively for fall (right). At left, Clarins' limited fall items—Colourful Horizons Eye Colour Palette and Express Face Palette

CHITO VECINA



RUNWAY CHIC. Detective Chic (Beige Vibration, left), Dior's star fall makeup in a stitched faux leather case

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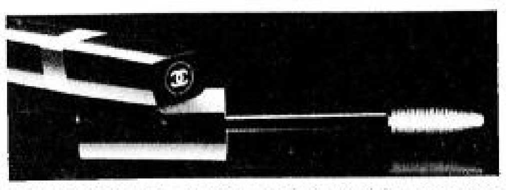

LASH OUT. Chanel's new Inimitable mascara with elastomer brush for 3D-looking eyelashes

SNOWFLAKES. Awake's new Side Long Lash Mascara with fiber-tip brush, and Shimmer Glow Eye Jelly in Spark Gold (also available in four other colors)

Fall's positives

From page D2

tradition. Chanel's limited star product for the eye is mottled pan of pink, gold and silver threads.

Guerlain, meanwhile, has lip lacquers from the softest pinks to the deepest reds. The rest of its lipsticks have gold undertones. Eyes are dramatically smoky.

Mode makeup trendsetter Shu Uemura, as usual, is very arty in its fall look. Its palette for the eyes has deep verdant tones with antique orange blush for the cheeks. Inspired by the ancient art of filigree, Shu Uemura has saturated gold dusts in its fall makeup line.

MAC goes '60s retro, its lip glasses understated. The eyes are the brand's focal point—vivid neutral hues and theatrically long eyelashes.

The New York Times last week reported that the fall look calls for fuller, bushier eyebrows; it suggested ditching the tweezers (check out MAC and Shiseido's looks). Note, though, that unlike brow shapes, having flirty, jet-black eyelashes isn't just a passing trend; it's a classic that's likely to stay for seasons to come—and no more prominent than at this time. Several brands are introducing advance-technology mascara brushes to achieve an appearance of lush, flirtatious lashes.

Fancy packaging is also an indicator of the gift-giving season, with some exclusive items too precious to risk confiscation at airport security (remember to check them in when you travel, ladies).

Dior has a face-and-eye shimmer that seems intended to satisfy luxury hankerings. This limited item comes in a wallet-size, stitched faux leather case inspired by the runways.

Lancôme also has its own must-have exclusive items, including eye shadows that come in sleek gunmetal discs.

Clarins has a nifty three-in-one express makeup palette and a six-shade eye-color compact, for the on-the-go contemporary woman.

Laundry Tips Using your LG Washing Machine

Most people think that doing the laundry is as simple as dumping all the dirty clothes in the washer. What they don't know is that knowing the right way to do the laundry, not only guarantees cleaner clothes but also greater savings in water and electricity consumption. To get the most efficient performance out of your washers, LG Electronics suggests the following laundry tips:

Loading the Washing Machine

Read the manufacturer's instruction booklet thoroughly, keep it for reference, and follow the recommended laundry procedures.

- Do not overload the machine; garments should not exceed the manufacturer's recommendation and clothes must be able to move freely in water. Different washing loads require different treatment. Clothes with metal buttons and zipper buttons should be washed separately, light colored clothes separately, and so on. Overloading hinders the machine to perform its spin-dry function. Make sure that you know the capacity of your machine and fill it accordingly.
- Loading the washer to full capacity each time you wash will save time and energy, but don't be tempted to mix dark and light clothes in one load just to fill it.
- Mix small and large items in each load for the best circulation, and distribute the load evenly around the wash basket.

Selecting the Water Level

Use enough water to provide good circulation, but do not use so much that you waste water and energy. Most machines have a water-level control, and you should adjust this control to match each load you wash. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for this information.

Selecting the Detergent

Using the right detergent and the right amount of detergent is very important. The norm is to use 10 litres of water and 1/2 a scoop of recommended detergent.

Drying Clothes

A spin dryer dries clothes up to 85%, whatever the weather. Arrange the clothes evenly in the dryer and set the timer. Woolen clothes should not be spin-dried as they loose their shape and become matted.

Drain out excess water after every wash, there is no need to wash the drum everyday, except if you have used starch or any such additive. However, once a month, treat your washer to a complete clean up and drain out all the water from the wash area.

LG Washing Machines feature the advanced 3-Step Washing technology that produces 3 types of motion: Rubbing, Shaking and Untangling. Its unique punch action reduces tangling during washing, allowing the detergent and the water to effectively clean your laundry, resulting in a cleaner and more thorough wash. The Fuzzy Logic System uses state of the art technology to automatically detect load weight, amount of dirt and water temp and in turn, sets the appropriate amount of detergent, wash time and wash level for fool-proof washing even for those who are not beginners in doing the laundry.

For more tips on laundry and washing machine maintenance and information on LG Washing Machines, the LG Customer Information Center would be gladly and promptly entertain all your queries. You may get in touch with them at this toll free number: 1-800-10-6402525, thru LG Text Service at 0917-8242525 (Globe) and 09209002525 (Smart) or by logging into **www.lge.com.ph.**

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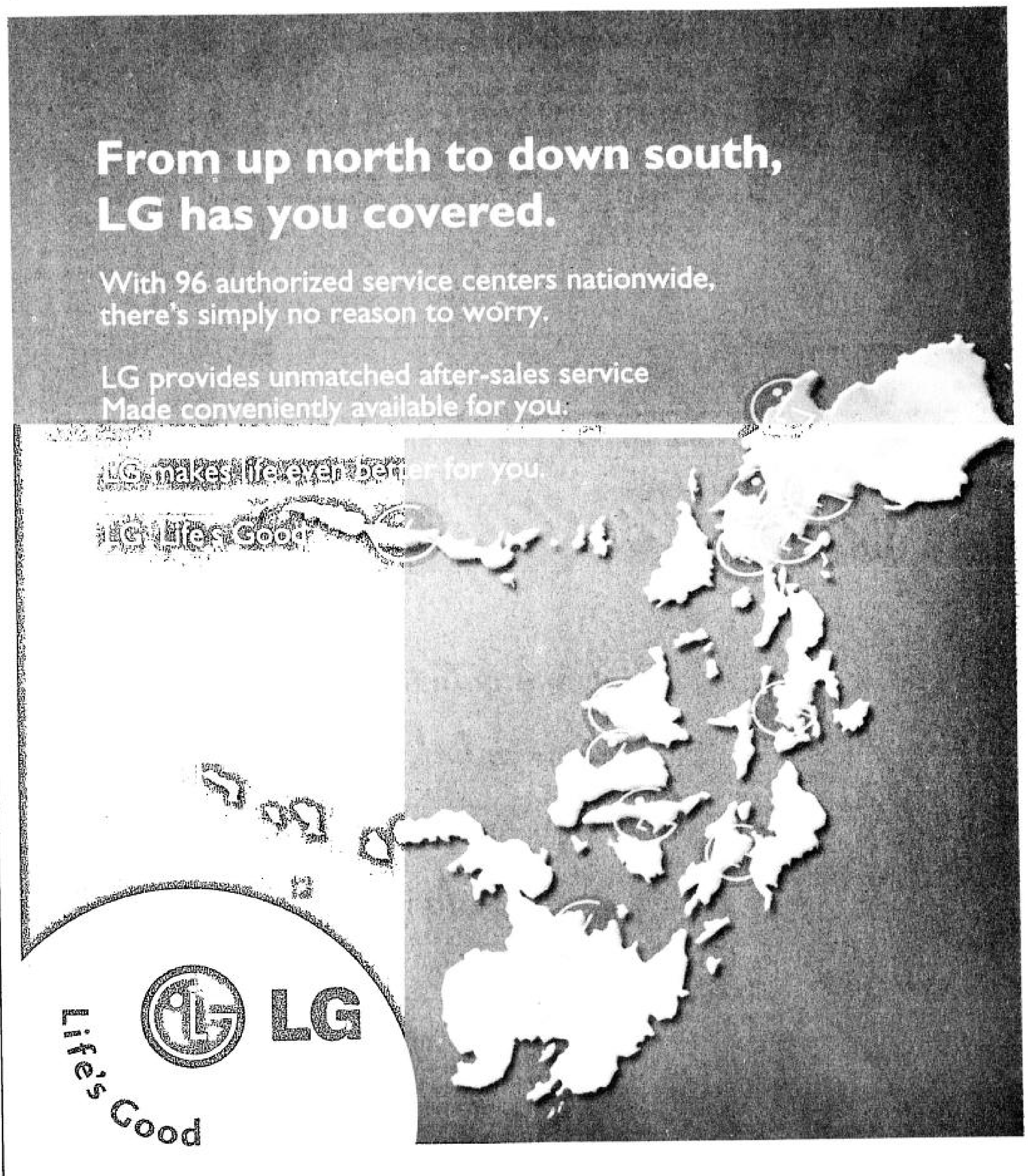

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AGE HAS COMPELLED ME TO LOOK more into vitamin supplements that not only make people look younger but feel and think younger. Thanks to the PowerBooks sale this August, I was able to buy books that dealt with my greatest concerns: brain-boosting supplements for better memory and for greater alertness so that I can think fast on certain situations; vitamins for detoxifying the body system to boost immunity and fend off diseases; and supplements for women's health concerns such as menopause, pregnancy and cardiovascular health.

There were several supplements that kept popping up on different books and that seemed to apply to the complications of aging, but what stood out the most were B-complex vitamins. They seemed like the answer to my prayers as their combination helps one obtain good skin, hair, nails and vision, as well as prepares one for pregnancy, aids in carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism, enhances immunity, makes one smarter, improves the memory, helps ease menopause, boosts one's energy, etc.

Of course, I took it and my mood improved, my hair became thicker, attained boundless energy and amazing memory, and I recovered fast from fever.

But one thing that alarmed the people around me was the increase in my already hearty appetite as I could out-eat hungry men. Example: Half-pound burger with four toppings, large fries on the side, chili con carne, a milk shake and two large cookies for a mid-afternoon snack. Dinner would be a buffet somewhere.

As expected, I gained weight and became hungry every four hours. Yup, it was the B-complex. Other women who took the supplements had the same problem.

Funny, but men didn't seem affected the same way when they took the supplements. And a few women, although they ate smaller meals more often, didn't have the urge to overeat so they didn't gain weight as I did.

I gave up B-complex and immediately looked for alternatives because I really did love what the supplements did for my memory, immune system and hair, aside from lowering my cholesterol and triglycerides!

Alternatives

Gingko Biloba (100 mg, P830/60 tabs; 30 mg, P450/60 tabs)—improves circulation, concentration and memory. Studies show that it stimulates the sex drive especially in men. Beneficial for high blood pressure.

Note: Gingko Biloba reportedly thins blood so people with low-blood pressure should consult their doctor.

Dosage: Once a day for 100 mg and two tablets twice a day for 30 mg.

Garlic oil (5,000 mg, P420/100 gel tablets)—This also kept popping up along with B complex. This treats colds, fights infections, intestinal parasites, heart disease, lowers cholesterol and prevents cancerous tumors from forming.

Dose: Once a day.

Garlic Oil and Gingko Biloba are available at Health Express, which offers bargain prices.

For the immune system, certain drugs serve to raise the levels of glutathione, a vital antioxidant. These are better than supplements because there are findings that Glutathione taken orally stay mostly in the intestinal tract and very little is absorbed by the body so it is actually better to take supplements that serve to raise Glutathione levels such as:

Immunocal (P4,200 for a 30-day supply) —made of Whey Protein Isolate (up to 98-percent protein); this is the purest form of whey, containing even more protein than the concentrate (80-percent protein max) form.

Immunocal is made of bonded Cysteine, which is the most effective way to raise glutathione. This is actually being used to boost the immune system of cancer and HIV-afflicted patients in the US and Europe.

Available at any Belo clinic (tel. 8442939) and Forever Flawless branch (e-mail forever.flawless@gmail.com or call 4338807).

Vitimmune All Immune (P5,500 for a 30-day supply)—Contains all the supplements that raise glutathione levels in the body. Available at Mikaela salon (tel. 8163697).

The above two products are responsible for keeping my skin silky soft. They fade mosquito bites, tan lines and pimple marks almost instantly. They also renew my energy, boost skin clarity and improve muscle tone even without exercise (although it would be better if I really work out). They also improve my concentration.

Internally, the two products detoxify the liver and kidneys. They also strengthen the heart, liver and lungs, reduce incidence of cancer, and strengthen the defense against influenza.

Check out Health Express discount bins for Cidertrim, whose price is down to P530 from the original P880. It burns fat, suppresses appetite, eliminates bloating by releasing the toxins trapped in fat cells, encourages regular bowel movement and boosts energy and endurance. This has the highest dosage at 1,000 mg per tablet.

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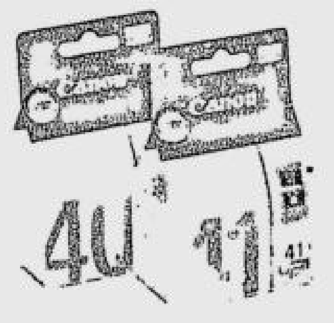

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Melody Monasterial

Lucena
- Mother of two
- Scholar of Barangay Nutrition Program
- Trainer at local DSWD's dressmaking course

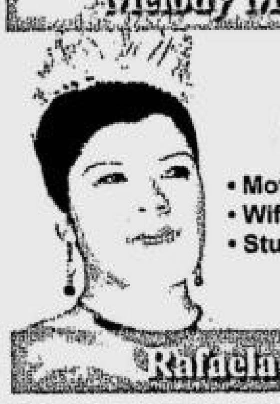
Rosela Daluraya

Baguio
- Mother of three
- Wife of an Air Force officer

Melanie Ciano

San Fernando
- Mother of one
- Wife of a co-engineer
- Civil engineer by profession

Madilyn Cuenco



Batangas
- Mother of three
- Wife of an OFW
- Student of BS Education

Rafaela Faltado

Legaspi
- Mother of one
- Wife of a businessman
- Graduate of BS Computer Science

Rosario Llegado

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- Mother of three
- Wife of a university registrar
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Visiting young royal sparks battle royale

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT Meryl Streep's wicked Miranda Priestley in "The Devil Wears Prada" would become the talk of the town, the high-society buzz has shifted to the battle royale over royalty between two prominent, lovely, and occasionally "wicked" matrons.

The object of their rivalry is no less than the visiting royalty, Andrea Casiraghi of Monaco, one of the world's hottest eligibles. The good-looking son of HRH (Her Royal Highness, know your abbreviations) Caroline of Hanover (known more to readers of royalty as Princess Caroline of Monaco, Princess Grace's eldest daughter) is in town, as you know, not on a royal visit, but to tour the charitable projects in the Philippines of his mother, under the Virlanie Foundation.

The country's chair for Virlanie Foundation, Marietta Santos, has arranged a full itinerary for the young scion—to visit orphanages, meet street children and touch base with the youth. Kicking this off was supposedly a welcome dinner for him last Sunday at Shangri-La Makati's Red.

But that same evening, Fortune Ledesma, Monaco's honorary consul to the Philippines, had other plans for the VIP—she decided to host a dinner for him in the hotel's Shang Palace. "She made it known that she could do that because she's the consul and that she has the full backing of the Department of Foreign Affairs," our source told us.

So—even as Marietta had pulled all the stops to prepare a fitting dinner, Fortune enjoyed better fortune that night. In graphic terms, Marietta was seeing red at Red. Our not-too-biased source told us that the other members of the Virlanie Foundation committee kept Marietta company—Josine Elizalde, Deeda Garcia, among them.

You may remember that two years ago, Caroline of Hanover had a most productive visit to Manila, meeting various people—from the already-there to the wanna-be-there of Manila society, who coughed up seven-figure sums to earn the right to sit with royalty.

Those who met her were impressed with her energy and passion for the cause of the street children and orphans under the wing of Virlanie Foundation.

She even found the time to visit the city jail, and showed keen interest in the plight of the poor.

Two dinners on one night are hosted by two famous and 'occasionally wicked' society matrons for Monaco's 22-year-old Andrea Casiraghi

The Foundation, for decades, has been quietly into charity projects worldwide. Caroline's last visit was meant to raise funds for the Philippine projects. The cause of poor children was close to the heart of her mother, the famous Hollywood actress Grace Kelly, who became Monaco's princess.

This year, apparently the task fell on Caroline's young bachelor son, to inspect Princess Grace's legacy. Aside from visiting the projects, he will also drop by Ateneo and UP for talks with students.

All these years, Marietta, with the Kuoks of Shangri-La, has been working on the Virlanie projects. She and Josine put together a most successful benefit dinner and visit for Caroline two years ago.

But "this time, Fortune is in the picture," our trying-to-be-objective source said.

Whatever. One thing is incontestable—it is

VISITING/ E3

HIS mother's son. Andrea Pierre Casiraghi, visits the Virlanie home for street kids in Makati City just like mom, Princess Caroline of Monaco, did two years ago. RYAN LIM

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PRINCE Albert II greets Monaco's honorary consul in the Philippines, Fortune Aleta-Ledesma.

BELA Van der Molen, Hollywood producer/actor Christopher Kriesa, Conrad Van der Molen and Christina Carballo of the Philippine Consulate in Monaco

OSCAR Torres, movie director/writer of award-winning "Innocent Voices"; Editha Hill of Monaco; and Dr. Samuel Bernal, chair of Biotechnology Center Research, Los Angeles, California

MARIVEL Carandang, Iraq's Ambassador to France Mowafak Abboud and Madame Abboud, Marilu Romero of Elite Travel, and Philippine Consul General in Geneva Grace Princesa

Of charities, shoes and scotch whiskey

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using **Kodak** EasyShare system

THE *TRES* PRESTIGIOUS PENTIUM Fund Foundation of Paris organized an elegant fundraising grand dinner at the renowned Hotel D' Paris in sunny Monte Carlo, *palanggas*.

The cocktails were led by no less than **Prince Albert** of Monaco who welcomed hotshot ambassadors and other guests, including the Philippine ambassador to Italy, **Philippe Lhuillier** and honorary Consul of Monaco in Manila, **Fortune Aleta Ledesma.**

Mingling with the international *alta sociedad* were dazzling **Amparito Lhuillier**; **Mariquita Yong** of London and Cebu; **Gina Lopez** of ABS-CBN and Bantay Bata Foundation; former Miss Philippines, Madrid-based **Czarina Zaragoza**, plus others like them too glam to be mentioned, dahlings.

The highlight of this chi-chi event had world-class **Kuh Ledesma** and **Grace Nono** entertaining the guests with music arranged by mega talented **Louie Ocampo**.

Brilliantly organizing the top charity event was investment banker and businessman **Vicente Zaragoza**, who heads the Pentium Fund Foundation.

The happening benefited Philippine charities. It was also expected to promote exchanges between the chambers of commerce and industry of Monaco and the Philippines.

Already in town for a week-long visit is tall debonaire **Andrea Pierre Casiraghi**, son of **Princess Caroline** of Monaco. He is visiting the pet charity of his mother, the Amade-Virlanie Foundation, which gives shelter and guidance to hundreds of homeless children and victims of domestic abuse.

Capping the visit is tonight's *tres* chic gathering of *Cosmo Manille* high society at the upscale Nuvo and Mezze bars and resto in Greenbelt 2.

Well, dahlings, even royals do have to chill out after a hectic week of work, *n'est ce pas*!

Step in style

With its flawless style, refined music, terrific cocktail and excellent finger food, the ever trendy Cinderella was true to form as it rolled out the red carpet during the launch of UK's Clarks' eye-catching 2006 shoe collection, *palanggas*.

It was definitely unlike any other shopping day. We were treated to view the Clarks Lifestyle Shoe Exhibit. We also shopped till we dropped at the Clarks shop in Glorietta 3.

Wearing their own pairs of Clarks shoes were athletic and articulate **TJ Manotoc**, who superbly hosted the event, and Studio 23 news anchor **Mari Kaimo**, who could not stop complimenting "the shoes' style and comfort," dahlings.

Clarks later gave out special gifts to the shoppers, such as Clarks bags, wallets and other great items, *natch*.

But that didn't stop there, *palanggas*. Fifty gift packs were also given away from Biolink Pharma. To top it all, telecom giant Smart Infinity gave a 10-percent discount to Smart Infinity card members who would buy at Clarks. The discount will last one whole year, till May 4, 2007. Hey, not bad, huh!

Among the guests were **Gerry San Miguel**, vivacious southern gal **Lucille Raymond Villanueva, Max** and **Zelda Keinle, Simon** and **Gemma Gemeley, Larry Amante, Luigi Avancena, Sid Castro, Dennis Litonjua,** Dr. **Belquero, Lirio Mapa,** Dr. **Diana Cua, Rosita Pardillo** and **Conchita Pardillo,** *palanggas*.

Other hot namedroppables include the British Embassy's entry clearance manager **Christopher Stacey** and deputy director **Rov Walker; Francis Chua,** president of the Philippine-Chinese Chamber of Commerce; congressional spouse, gorgeous **Nikki Prieto-Teodoro;** Honorary Consul **Evie Costa** of Togo and Ambassador **Victor Garcia** and **Connie Garcia,** who all unveiled the new Clarks shoes store in Glorietta 3, *palanggas*.

More info? Log on to www.clarks.co.uk.

Check out Clarks *palanggas*. They're so easy on your feet.

Smashing scotch

There are drinkers and there are boozers, *palanggas*. But when you meet a scotch lover, you can bet your last peso, you'll find them at the celebration and launching of a new high-end single malt whisky from Diageo.

Moi couldn't believe my eyes (which are still almost 20-20, dahlings) when I saw a stream of hot big boys' toys like Ferrari's, Porsches, Lamborghinis, BMWs and Benzes, which were parked outside that posh resto-bar Embassy Cuisine, where the *tres* chosen scotch connoisseurs were invited to try Diageo's exclusive high-end single-malt whisky, the Singleton of Glen Ord, no less.

Our town's most successful and dynamic whisky drinkers were given an educational and entertaining background on the new brand by Singleton's official ambassador, **Kenny Gray,** who jetted in from Scotland, *palanggas*.

This single-malt scotch whisky is produced using the traditional 19th-century Scottish distilling methods of the award-winning Glen Ord distillery, which is one of the oldest and most historic distilleries in Scotland's highlands, *palanggas*.

"We have chosen to launch the Singleton of Glen Ord in Asia first, before the rest of the world, and Manila is one of the first cities that will get a first taste. Since consumers in Asia are becoming more and more sophisticated, we believe in offering a choice and a journey of discovery, based on authentic tastes, flavors and regionality," **Jasper Evangelista,** Diageo scotch portfolio marketing manager, told us.

Judging from what my eagle eyes were observing, *Manille*'s male and female power movers and shakers showed exactly how life is enjoyed with their every sip of this new and most desired single-malt whisky.

Check it out only at the country's top bars and restos, dahlings.

Erratum

So sorry about the name of the caterer during the **RJ Jacinto** event (Aug. 18 column). It should have been Gerry's Grill instead of "Dencio's Grill." Mea culpa, *palanggas*.

DIAGEO'S dream team. Mikay Chang, Singleton brand ambassador Kenny Gray, Shareena Roman and Jasper Evangelista

JOHN Patrick Ledonio, brilliant young PR gent GP Reyes and Philip Pogiongko

YOUNG property developer Gerard Ceballos

TV COMMERCIAL post-production master Adrian Tecson

JACQUES Dupasquier with Dorraine Cuaso.

IT'S SCOTCH for them! Vijay Chulani and Mahesh Mirpuri

MICHEL Bonquier, president of Monaco's Tourism Authority, and Vicente Zaragoza, president of Pentium Fund foundation and charity event organizer

US-BASED Yoly Zaragoza Dominguez and sister, Madrid-based former Miss Philippines, Czarina Zaragoza Sainz

CLARKS shoes wearers. Ritchi Lavarro, eye-catching Isabel de Venecia, and Cinderella's local group manager Marielle Santos with her true love, Century Tuna's Leo Po

STYLISH head-turner, Chris Yam

SOCIALITES Roi Philip and Susan Laudico, and Cinderella's cybersmart marketing director Malou de Venecia

PHILIPPINE Chinese Chamber of Commerce president Francis Chua

CINDERELLA'S vice president, wonder woman Therese Coronel Santos; special guests Ambassador Victor and Connie Garcia

BUSINESS magnate Al Santos, Lifestyle Asia editor in chief Sari Yap, mega businessman Roberto de Venecia and young taipan Sonny Lim

TJ MANOTOC; British Embassy's dashing deputy director Rov Walker; Cinderella CEO Arthur Coronel; gorgeous congressional spouse, Nikki Prieto Teodoro; Togo's honorary consul Evie Costa; TV anchor Mari Kaimo; and brilliant Richie Santos, VP for merchandising

Tiptop makeovers

BRITISH STYLE ADVISER Justine Trail-Thomas demonstrated that Topshop has something for different body types when she did makeovers for slim Ria Ocampo, a student, and full-figured Nina Marcelo, a communications planner.

JUSTINE Trail-Thomas with Nina Marcelo, shown here in Topshop's Pansy short shift dress

Justine is based in Topshop's biggest store in London's Oxford Circus. (Another Topshop style adviser from London, Caroline Stenning, joined her in the Manila visit).

Topshop clothes are basically trendy and carefree. "But we do not stereotype because we want to cater to women of any age and body type, specially since people's lifestyles and fashion sense have changed. They are more fashionable and more conscious about being "cool" and "hip," the stylists said.

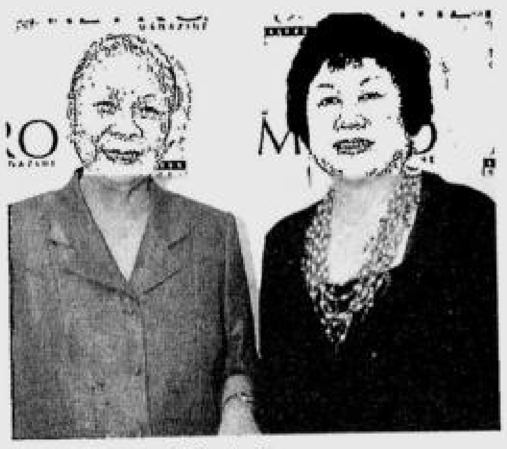
Using collections from Topshop's newly opened branch at the SM Mall of Asia, Justine mixed and matched and added accessories to embellish their outfits.

Topshop has tops and blouses that can be worn by both slim and full-figured ladies because they rest on the hips, creating a "slimming effect."

Topshop and Topman are celebrating their fifth anniversary in the Philippines this year. Topshop has branches in Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place Manila, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Glorietta 2, The Podium, Power Plant Mall, Alabang Town Center and SM Mall of Asia. Topman has stores in Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place Manila, The Podium, Power Plant Mall and SM Mall of Asia.

ON RIA Ocampo: Linen cutout shift dress, P2,745; skinny Lurex figure belt, P645; Mimi patent ballet flats, P1,945, all from Topshop

TONICHI Nocom, Cesar Gaupo and Lulu Tan Gan



SOCORRO and Virgie Ramos

ITO CURATA

MARGE and Monchet Olives

Visiting young royal...

From page E1

the women in this country who have the excess energy. Women, yes—and the gays.

Right, Justice Cruz?

Spotting Miranda

On a nonworking holiday last Monday, fashion designers, retail industry leaders, fashion media and fashionistas trooped to the special screening of "The Devil Wears Prada," organized by Lifestyle Network and Metro Magazine at the Podium. It was a no-frills affair. There were no cocktails, just popcorn.

No doubt about it—the audience enjoyed it. Who among the guests could be a Miranda? Ask those who were there—Cesar Gaupo, Tonichi Nocom, Lulu Tan Gan (who came in pink top and short shorts, the only above-40 woman I know who can get away with that), Vic Barba, Joey Samson, Ivar Aseron, Stores Specialists' Malu Francisco, Rustan's Gigi Mabanta, Luzanne Manlapit and Menchu Baliza, and SM's Millie Dizon and Steven Tan.

Members of the press who were there included Pepper Teehankee (a tennis diehard like us, but who, unlike us, doesn't love Andy Roddick), Tim Yap (looking 10 years younger with his clean-cut hair), and Isah Red.

Also there were L'Oreal's Tina Tinio, Dockers' Bobet Romualdo, Edsa Shangri-La's Neil Rumbaoa, a so-abloom Vicki Belo, Audrey Tan Zubiri (who's enjoying her role as politician's wife), ABS-CBN's Monchet Olives (incognito, apparently even to his own employees) and wife Margie, Law Tan (who now has his own ad/creative agency), bride-to-be Sandra Ramos and her mom Precy, Lifestyle Network's Ronald Arguelles and Julie Santiago.

It was fun to watch National Bookstore matriarch Socorro Ramos enjoying the movie with Virgie Ramos who, why were we not surprised, was hawk-eyed enough to spot one big Swatch billboard in one memorable scene. That made her night—the Devil Wore Swatch.

But we were watching something else—the precious Prada bags which SSI allowed us to parade for the night. Put together, these bags cost more than a million bucks. Just to be sure they were secure and intact, we lugged them from the cinema back to the car to be returned the next day. The Devil Didn't Want to Lose Prada.

'It' bag era is over

Speaking of Prada and "it" bags, it seems the era of "it" things is about to be over. Women's Wear Daily reports that the "concept of 'it' items is rapidly waning." While it notes that accessories remain the biggest sellers in fashion, consumers are no longer falling for just one trendy must-have object.

Women are wisening up. They want their individual choices and a variety of styles and products to choose from.

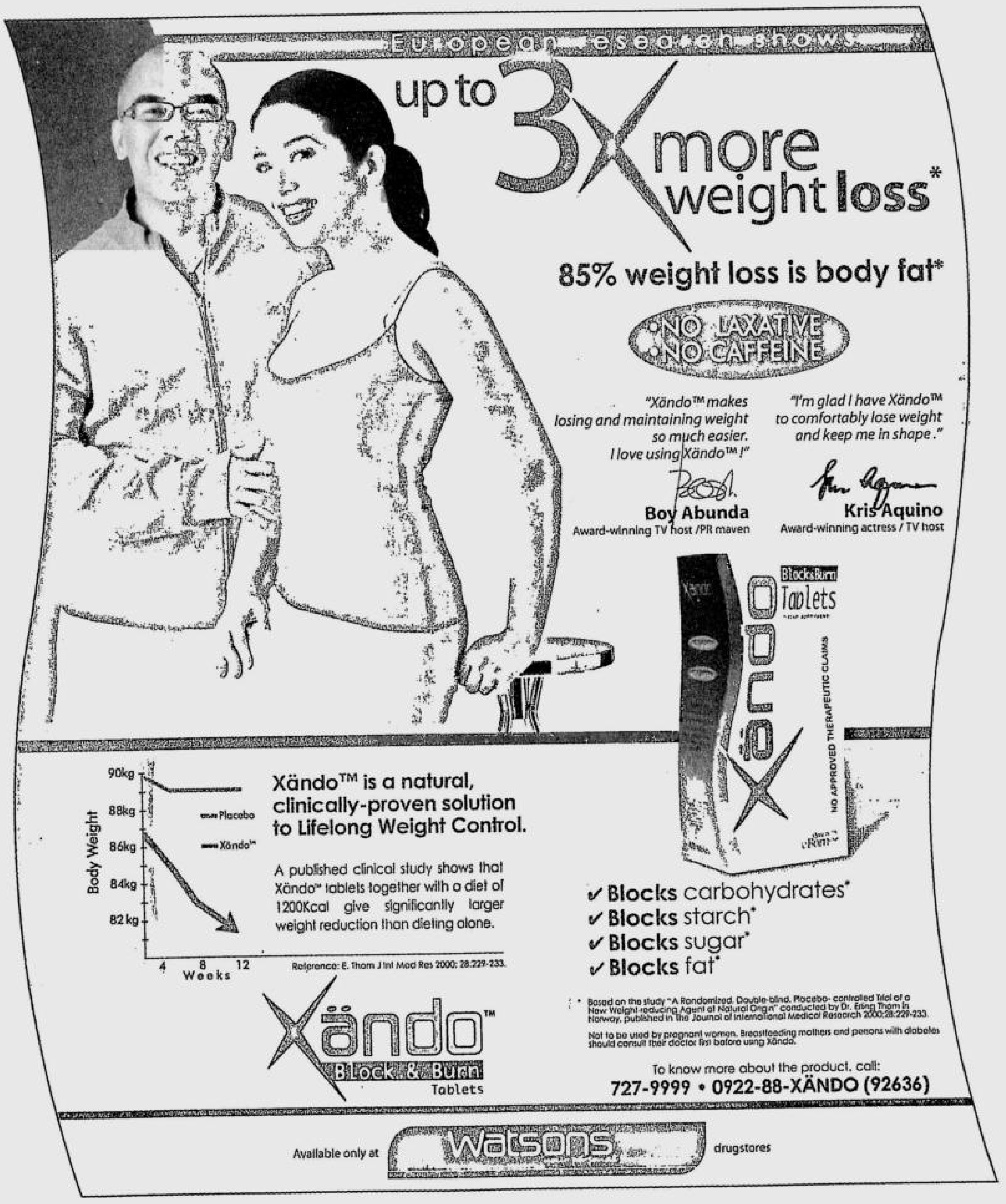
So now fashion brands are giving consumers a parade of products and styles, instead of hyping up only one product.

Rafe for Target

Rafe Totengco, the Filipino bag designer who has made it big in New York, has just bagged a contract with US retail giant Target. He will design a collection of bags and accessories for the chain, to be sold starting October.

Totengco became the pride of Filipinos when his Rafe New York label debuted at Bergdorf Goodman in 1995. He won the Council of Fashion Design of America's Perry Ellis Award for Accessory Design in 1999.

JOEY Samson and Ivarluski Aseron



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CHS HONORS PDI FOUNDER
The board of the College of the Holy Spirit Alumnae Foundation (CHSAF) hosted a lunch in honor of Eugenia D. Apostol (Class '42), this year's recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts and founder of the Philippine Daily INQUIRER. At present, she publishes the Mr. & Ms. magazine. With Ms Apostol (seated, center) are from left, Pilar Gonzales, SSPS; Toni Villaraza Gregory, CHSAF president; Menchu Dayrit Padilla and Marilen Espiritu. Standing: Kalyn Manzano, Rosalou Soriano Lamson, Marilen Fernandez, Thelma Gana, Ditas Lerma, Menchu Que and Susan de los Reyes

GROUP participants in the Mandy Navasero Batanes Photo Safari

Batanes in photographs

THE PHOTO EXHIBIT, "BATANES and Other Destinations," is ongoing until Aug. 27 at North Court, Rockwell Power Plant Mall. Exhibitors are participants in the first Mandy Navasero Batanes Photo Safari. Navasero will display her own photographs of Batanes, Coron (Palawan), Iloilo, Guimaras and Butuan City. The best five photographs will be chosen by a panel of judges composed of professor Emmanuel Torres, Magsaysay awardee for journalism Eugenia Duran-Apostol, photographers Patrick de Koenigswarter and Lilen Uy, and Lorraine Belmonte of Lifestyle Asia and Mega magazine.

Photographs will be auctioned Aug. 26, 4 p.m., for the restoration of an Ivatan stone house, a project of the Batanes Foundation for the benefit of the Ivatan Vernacular House Restoration and Conservation Program. Special guests are Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano and former Rep. Butch Abad. Two round-trip tickets to Batanes, courtesy of Asian Spirit, will be raffled off during the event. Call 09167060130 and 8991767.

GOINGS ON

SINGING CONTEST. Robinsons Malls and Glox are hosting until Sept. 14 a videoke singing contest at Nova Stop, Robinsons Place Novaliches. Weekly elimination rounds will be held Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 1 p.m. Finals will be on Sept. 23, 4 p.m., at Nova Stop. Call 6836100, local 780 or 782; 6836137.

CONFAB. "Imagine," the 7th Annual Excellence Conference, will be held Oct. 6-8 at Elim Global Headquarters, No. 51 10th St., Rolling Hills Village, New Manila, QC. Fee is P1,600 but those who register before Aug. 31 will pay only P1,200. Call 7226749 or log on to www.elimglobal.org/ec06.

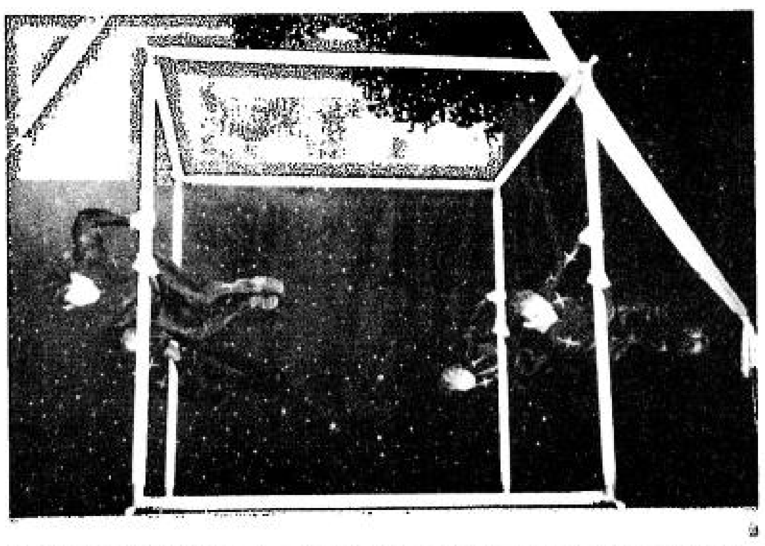
CONGRESS. Venture for Fund Raising is hosting the 2nd Fund Raising Congress at the College of St. Benilde Hotel, Aug. 29-30. The congress will discuss different funding scenarios and trends, environment of grants, local funding scenario, impact of taxes, and strategies for raising money. Visit www.venture-asia.org, e-mail mayan@venture-asia.org or call 6348889-90.

TRADE FAIR. The Prime Asia Trade Planners and Convention Organizers presents the 13th National Arts and Furniture Antique show, Sept. 8-Oct. 3, at Greenhills Shopping Complex. The fair will feature Christmas décor, antique and modern furniture, arts and crafts, novelty items, fashion accessories, among others. Call 8203862, 8266732.

PROGRAM. "A Tribute to Teachers" of the nonprofit Bato Balani Foundation Inc. will be held Sept. 9, 1:30-5:30 p.m., at the Araneta Coliseum, QC. Guest speakers are Dr. Denis Waitley, founding director of the National Council of Self-Esteem of the United States; Francis Kong of Business Matters Values Foundation, and Sandy Prieto-Romualdez of the Philippine Daily INQUIRER. Registration is ongoing. Log on to www.diwa.ph.

SEMINARS. CFS Creative Training and Management will conduct the following seminars: Staging Effective Presentation, Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Effective Supervisory Skills, Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Effective Business Communication, Sept. 20-21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Personality Enhancement, Sept. 23, , 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Leadership Skills (Effective People Management), Sept. 27-28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.. Call 8697960, 8232358, 8234825, or e-mail cfscreative@yahoo.com.ph

WORKSHOP. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc. is holding a series of photography workshops for professionals and amateurs. The three-day seminar, Let's Talk Business, will be held Sept. 20-22. Call 5247576 or 5280371.



BREATHTAKING theater. Cirque Imago's Jason Sanfilippo, Evgeny Malimon, Lindsey Orton and Michael Manzanet are "The Civilians."

High-level acrobatics at the mall today

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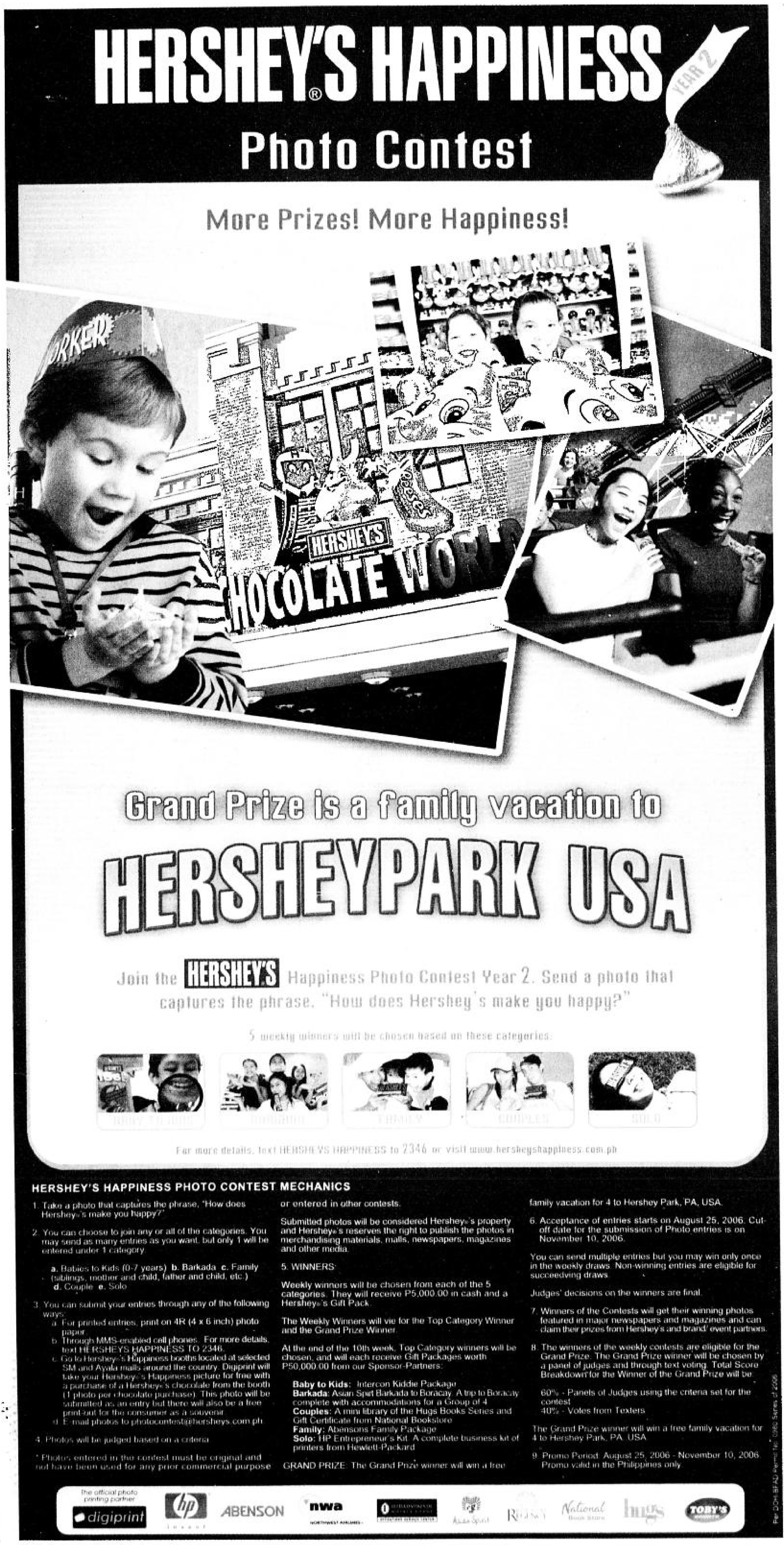

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You can send multiple entries but you may win only once in the weekly draws. Non-winning entries are eligible for succeedving draws.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

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JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

LINO BROCKA'S masterpiece will be shown at the New York Film Festival, and there's talk that its star, Hilda Koronel (an Urian awardee this year, above), is being invited to attend the Oct. 14 screening at the Lincoln Center. At right, Hilda in a scene from "Insiang," with Mona Lisa.

Movie-TV board suspends ABS-CBN's 'Correspondents'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

THE MOVIE AND TELEvision Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) has suspended the ABS-CBN documentary show "The Correspondents" for three consecutive weeks or three episodes.

The suspension was announced in a memorandum dated Aug. 15 and signed by lawyer Paulino Cases Jr., chair of the MTRCB Hearing and Adjudication Committee, and members Katherine Vilar and Ricardo de Leon.

The offending episode was "Ang Pinoy Rasta," aired June 26, which showed a father and son smoking marijuana.

Rastafari movement

The memo noted that the father even said smoking marijuana had no ill effects on his health.

Through their counsel, the show's representatives asserted that the docu was not about drug use, but about Rastafari, "a Jamaican religious practice adopted by some Filipinos as a way of life."

In a phone interview, Luchi Cruz-Valdez, network head of Current Affairs, earlier told INQUIRER Entertainment that smoking marijuana was an "intrinsic" part of the Rasta religion.

The network's representatives, according to the memo, said the offending portion had not been done in a manner that showed marijuana smoking as enjoyable.

The board pointed out that Presidential Decree No. 1986 "clearly provides that the board ... has the power to approve or disapprove, delete objectionable portions ... which in [its] judgment ... are objectionable for being immoral, indecent and contrary to law ..."

Valdez told INQUIRER on Tuesday that the network received a copy of the decision on Aug. 17. "That's why we're not airing the show tonight."

In an official statement, the network reiterated: "ABS-CBN News and Current Affairs protests the suspension ... [and] stands by its editorial judgment."

Valdez added that the network had filed a temporary restraining order (TRO) against the suspension in the Court of Appeals on Friday (Aug. 18).

"We hope to get the TRO soon so we can air next Tuesday," she said.

Erap bio

Meanwhile, the board disapproved on first review the TV documentary "Ang Mabuhay Para sa Masa," billed as a biography of former President Joseph Estrada.

In a memo dated Aug. 23, the board noted that the docu showed "scenes [that] ... may undermine the faith and confidence of the people in their government and/or duly constituted authority."

In an Aug. 23 letter, however, Laguardia informed the documentary's producer, Rey A. David, that he could appeal for a second review within five days from receipt of the notice.

Bro. Eli case

"After being rated X, a producer can apply for reclassification and his TV material will be reviewed by a different committee," Laguardia explained the process.

In another case, representatives of UN TV 37, Ang Dating Daan Productions and Eliseo "Brother Eli" Soriano failed to attend the adjudication hearing set on Aug. 22.

The board had earlier suspended Brother Eli's two programs "Ang Dating Daan" and "Itanong Mo Kay Soriano," aired on UNTV 37.

The case stemmed from statements made by Soriano against Iglesia ni Cristo, the Arroyo government and the present board.

"We will reschedule the hearing soon," Laguardia said.

'Insiang' still making waves

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—THIRTY YEARS AFTER IT was filmed, Lino Brocka's "Insiang" is anything but forgotten.

The masterpiece of the late great Filipino director will be screened at the 2006 New York Film Festival (NYFF), which runs Sept. 29 to Oct. 15. "Insiang," Warren Beatty's acclaimed World War I epic "Reds" and Alberto Lattuada's comic gem from the Golden Age of Italian cinema, "Mafioso," are considered "classics" by the selection committee.

Plaudits

NYFF is on its 44th year as a showcase of the finest in world cinema. The Film Society of Lincoln Center, which is behind NYFF, described "Insiang," thus:

"The first Filipino film screened at the Cannes Film Festival, 'Insiang' begins as the title character, marvelously played by Hilda Koronel, watches as her mother, Tonia (Mona Lisa), eases her relatives out of their ramshackle house so that she can ease in her boyfriend, Dado (Ruel Vernal). It doesn't take long for Dado to notice the beautiful Insiang, and soon the three are locked in a vicious emotional and sexual triangle clearly heading for some kind of explosion. Like his contemporary R.W. Fassbinder, Brocka used the conventions of melodrama in order to transcend them; if Hell is other people, with 'Insiang' Brocka created one of the darkest visions of the inferno ever committed to film."

There's talk that Hilda is being invited to attend the screening at the Lincoln Center on Oct. 14.

Kudos to NYFF for honoring "Insiang." This year also marks the 15th death and 5th death anniversaries of Lino and film critic Agustin "Hammy" Sotto, respectively. Hammy helped push "Insiang" in Cannes. It was not a favorite of then First Lady Imelda Marcos because its setting in the slums did not showcase "the true, the good and the beautiful."

The first time

But Richard Peña, chair of NYFF's selection committee and program director, considers "Insiang" one of his favorite films in world cinema.

Via e-mail, he recounted to us:

"I first saw 'Insiang' in the late '70s. I think it was at the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley. I was struck by the film's intensity—it just never let up. I was also struck by the acting, which [was] topnotch, especially the three principals. I had heard of Brocka, but I hadn't seen any of his films; finally, I knew what all the fuss was about."

Richard, a professor of film studies at Columbia University, added: "Brocka was clearly a major director, a master at eliciting first-rate performances and using the powers of the medium. Of course, he worked in a very commercially oriented industry; so many of his films were, I'm told, well-made but strictly routine assignments. But when he was able to give his artistry free rein—such as in 'Insiang,' 'Maynila: Sa Mga Kuko Ng Liwanag,' 'Bona'—he could be dazzling."

Richard is glad that Lino's legacy of gritty, realistic filmmaking continues among Filipino directors. He explained: "I think there are some wonderful new Filipino talents emerging such as Lav Diaz and Auraeus Solito, as well as 'diaspora' talents such as Neill dela Llana and Ian Gamazon and the continued fine work of people such as Mario O'Hara and Marilou Diaz-Abaya. Filipino cinema seems to have emerged successfully from a rough few years when it was trying to find its bearings again."

Good luck, Maxi

Speaking of Auraeus, good luck to him and the other talents behind "Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros" as the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP) committee decides on which film should be the Philippines' official entry to the next Oscar's Best Foreign Language Film derby.

If FAP picks "Maximo," the Philippines already has an edge because of the film's excellent run in the international circuit. It has won awards at such top-tier festivals as Berlin and Rotterdam.

Also, "Maximo's" US premiere at the Sundance Film Festival and opening night slot at NY's prestigious New Directors/New Films has given the film accessibility and credibility. It has also played in film festivals in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Boston, Miami, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Vail, Colorado.

Sylvia Miles (nominated as Best Supporting Actress for "Midnight Cowboy" and "Farewell, My Lovely"), an Academy member, has been quoted as saying at the Philippine Consulate (NY) reception for the movie: "'Maximo' is a sweet, gentle movie that members like me really go for. I don't even think Filipino, I don't even think gay, I just think it's a simple human story that goes for the heart."

What other open admirers say:

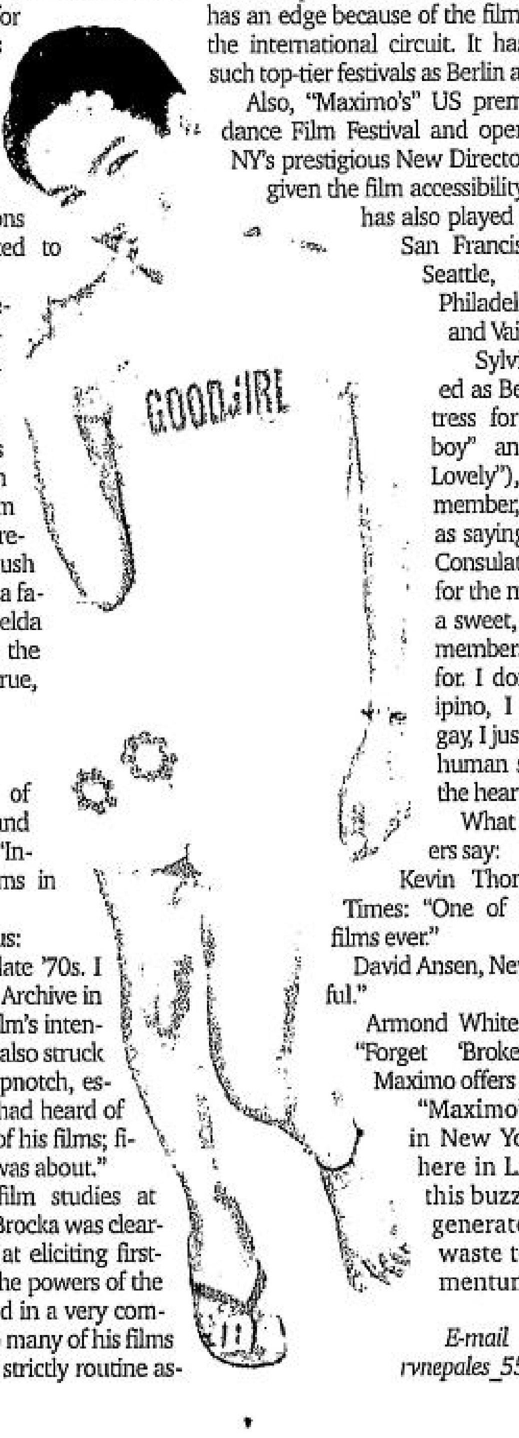
Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times: "One of the finest Filipino films ever."

David Ansen, Newsweek: "Wonderful."

Armond White, New York Press: "Forget 'Brokeback Mountain,' Maximo offers the real thing."

"Maximo" opens Sept. 22 in New York and Sept. 29 here in LA. You can't beat this buzz that the film has generated. It would be a waste to ignore this momentum.

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.



Jackie Forster's kids 'aloof'

By Nini Valera

JACKIE FORSTER HAS YET to introduce her three-month-old son to her two children by ex-husband Benjie Paras.

In an exclusive interview with INQUIRER Entertainment last week, Jackie said she last saw her kids by Benjie—Andre, 10 and Coby, 8—when she was eight months pregnant with Jerry, her son by another man.

"I bumped into them at the mall," Jackie recounted. "I hugged them, but they were kind of aloof. That was just for five minutes. I don't know what Benjie tells them. I don't want to force myself on them; I might scare them away."

Jackie said the last time she really spent time with the boys was in January 2004.

JACKIE/ F2

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3 THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50

4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

5 LITTLE MAN
1:10 3:20 5.30 7:40 9:50

6 MIAMI VICE
1:20 4:10 7:00 9:50

7 HADA
12:00 2:30 5:00 7 30 10:00

8 OH MY GHOST!
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

9 MORTUARY
1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10.00

10 SUKOB
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 LITTLE MAN
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

2 HADA
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:50

3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50

4 MORTUARY
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50

5 CLICK
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

6 SUKOB
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

7 SNAKES ON A PLANE
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 10:00

METRO EAST 682-8193/682-8199

1 AMERICAN DREAMZ
12:40 2:45 4:50 6:55 9:00

2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9.10

3 SNAKES ON A PLANE
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

4 LITTLE MAN
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

5 SUKOB
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

6 HADA
12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00

7 CLICK
12:25 2:35 4:45 6:55 9:00

8 MORTUARY
12:50 2:50 4 50 6:50 9:00

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2 LITTLE MAN
3 MORTUARY
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2 LITTLE MAN
3 WORLF CREEK
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Jackie Forster's kids 'aloof'

From page F1

"Benjie won't let me see them anymore," she said. "I wish we could sit down and talk about our problems for the the kids' sake. *Ayaw n'ya, e.*"

Under the terms of their annulment, Jackie has visitation rights.

"I've tried calling up the boys, seeing them in school," she said. "But Benjie would not allow it."

She denied that their separation was caused by another man. "That was just Benjie's press release," Jackie insisted. But she admitted dating other men after the split.

"I was with Joey Marquez for a while, way before Kris (Aquino)," admitted Jackie. "My relationship with Joey overlapped with his relationship with Kris. When that was over, I dated another man who was not from show biz. That was it, until I met this other man and got pregnant accidentally."

Jackie would not divulge the identity of her youngest son's father.

"He left when I told him I was pregnant," she said. To me, that was a pleasant surprise. He was just a con man."

Her third pregnancy was difficult, Jackie said. She was in and out of hospitals for rashes, abnormal breathing, and other ailments. She dilated at six-and-a-half months, and had to take a bed rest.

"I was very scared," she recalled.

When she finally delivered, the baby had an infection in the heart and lungs and had to be in an incubator for 12 days.

For three months, she struggled to keep the baby well. Hospital bills ate up her savings, so Jackie had to find work again. Recently, she signed up with Viva Artists to resume her stalled career.

"The last movie I made was 'Sa Huling Paghihintay' with Rica Peralejo and Bernard Palanca," she said. "That was about three years ago. I'd like to be active again. I've lost my teenage years to motherhood. Not that I regret that, but I have to get back on my feet and work again."

At 26, she's not too old to do that.

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R-13

2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00
PG-13

3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
R-13

4 CLICK
1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:05
PG-13

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 LITTLE MAN
MTRCB R-13
12 40, 3:00, 5.20, 7.40, 10:00

2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
MTRCB PG-13
12 00 2 30 5 00 7 30 10 00

3 CLICK
MTRCB PG-13
12.50, 3.10, 5.30, 7:50, 10:10

4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
MTRCB R-13
12 40, 3 00, 5 20, 7 40, 10.00

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AMERICAN DREAMZ
PG13
1:00,3:15,5:30,7:45

MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
R13
1:35,3:45,5:55, 8:05,10:15

LITTLE MAN
R13
1:25,3:35,5:45, 7:55,10:05

CLICK
PG13
1:10,3:20,5:30, 7:40,9:50

ANT BULLY
G
1:10,3:15,5:20,7:25

SNAKE ON THE PLANE
1:45,3:55,6:05, 8:15,10:25

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CINEMA 1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
11:45, 2:05, 4:20 6:35, 8:50

CINEMA 2 LITTLE MAN
11:20, 1:55, 4:30 7:05, 9:40
R-13

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CINEMA 3 SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
11:20, 1:30, 3:40 5:50, 8:00, 10:10
R-13

CINEMA 4 CLICK
12:00, 2:30, 5:00 7:30, 10:00
R-13

CINEMA 5 LITTLE MAN
11:45, 2:25, 5:00 7:35, 10:10
R-13

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AUG. 24,25 & 31	GARY V	8:00PM
AUG. 26, 2006	NONOY ZUNIGA	8:00PM

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AUG. 24-26, 2006	DAVID POMERANZ	9:00PM
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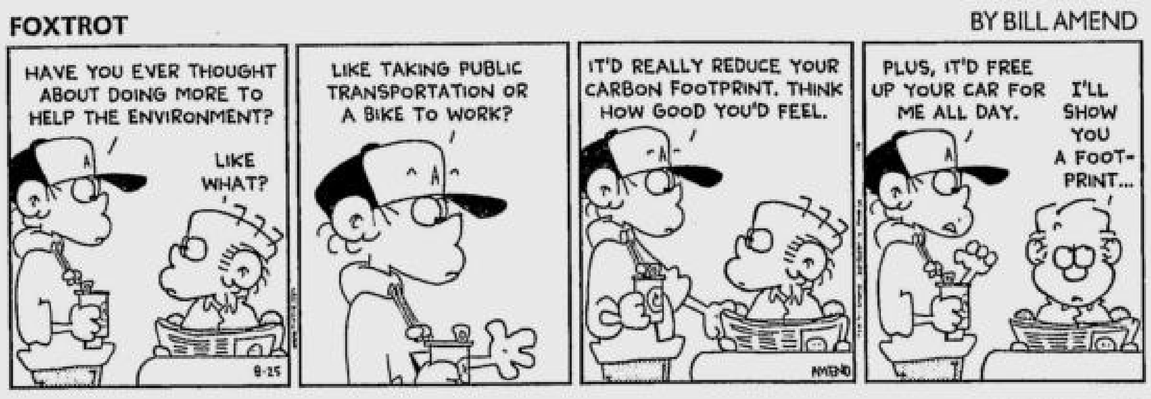
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

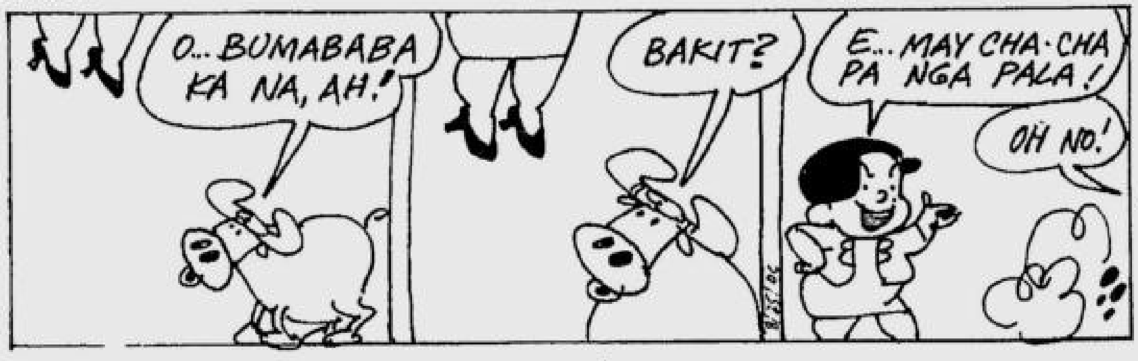
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT DOING MORE TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT?
LIKE WHAT?
LIKE TAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OR A BIKE TO WORK?
IT'D REALLY REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT. THINK HOW GOOD YOU'D FEEL.
PLUS, IT'D FREE UP YOUR CAR FOR ME ALL DAY.
I'LL SHOW YOU A FOOT-PRINT...
8-25
AMEND

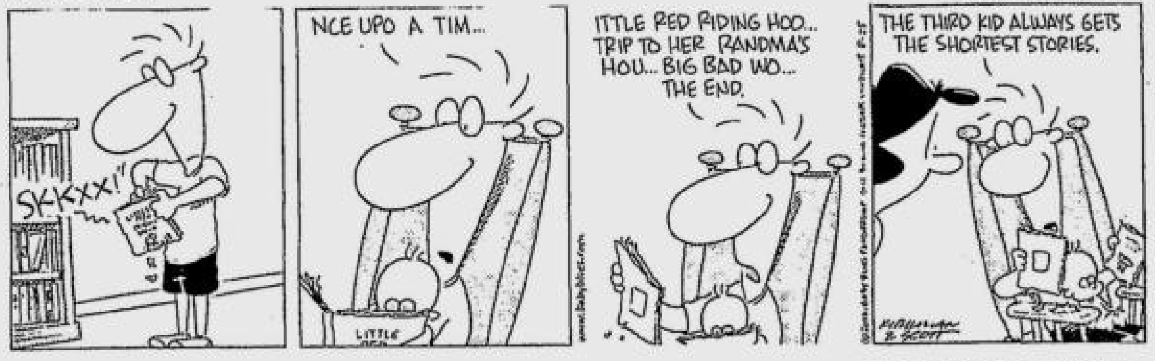
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


O... BUMABABA KA NA, AH!
BAKIT?
E... MAY CHA-CHA PA NGA PALA!
OH NO!

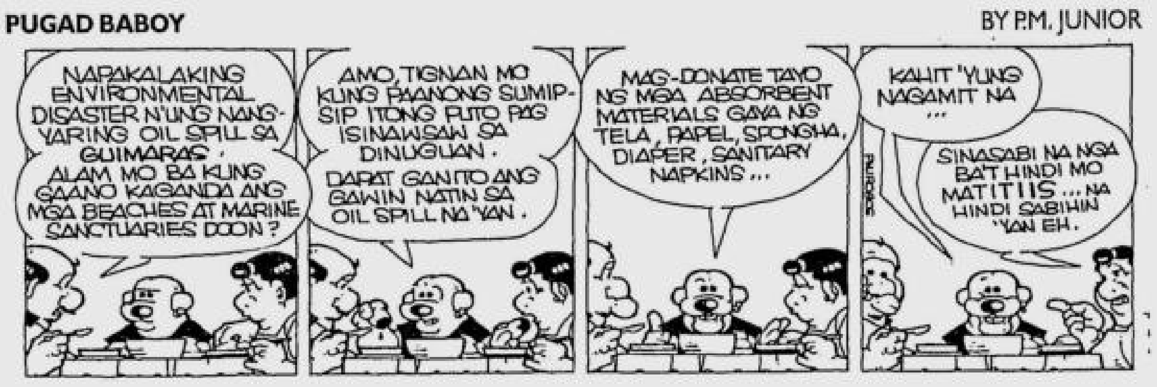
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


SKKXX!
NCE UPO A TIM...
ITTLE RED RIDING HOO... TRIP TO HER RANDMA'S HOU... BIG BAD WO... THE END.
THE THIRD KID ALWAYS GETS THE SHORTEST STORIES.
LITTLE

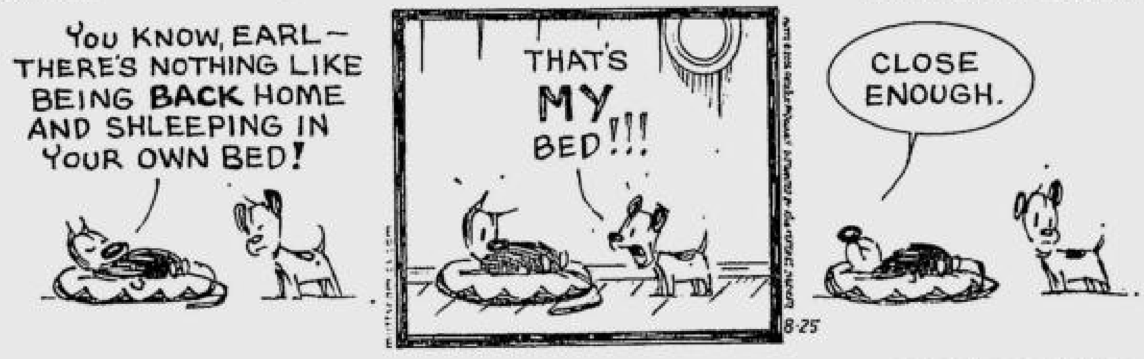
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAPAKALAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER N'UNG NANGYARING OIL SPILL SA GUIMARAS.
ALAM MO BA KUNG GAANO KAGANDA ANG MGA BEACHES AT MARINE SANCTUARIES DOON?
AMO, TIGNAN MO KUNG PAANONG SUMIPSIP ITONG PUTO PAG ISINAWSAW SA DINUGUAN.
DAPAT GANITO ANG GAWIN NATIN SA OIL SPILL NA 'YAN.
MAG-DONATE TAYO NG MGA ABSORBENT MATERIALS GAYA NG TELA, PAPEL, SPONGHA, DIAPER, SANITARY NAPKINS...
KAHIT 'YUNG NAGAMIT NA...
SINASABI NA NGA BA'T HINDI MO MATITIIS... NA HINDI SABIHIN 'YAN EH.

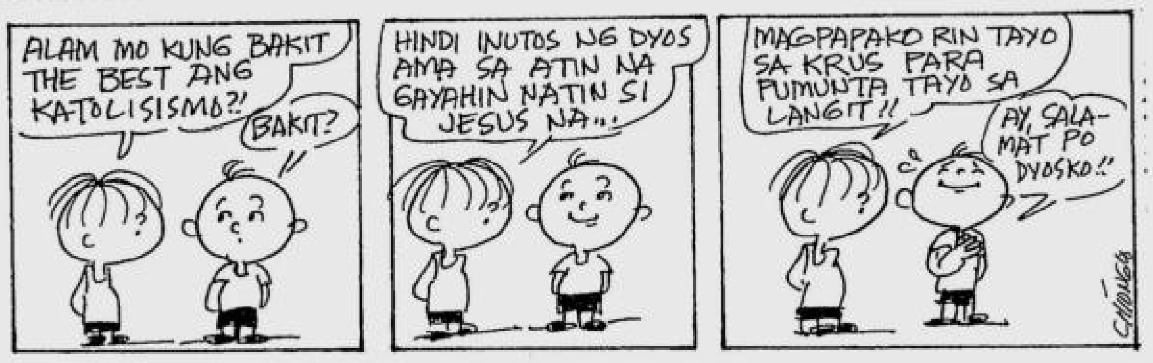
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


YOU KNOW, EARL— THERE'S NOTHING LIKE BEING BACK HOME AND SHLEEPING IN YOUR OWN BED!
THAT'S MY BED!!!
CLOSE ENOUGH.
8-25

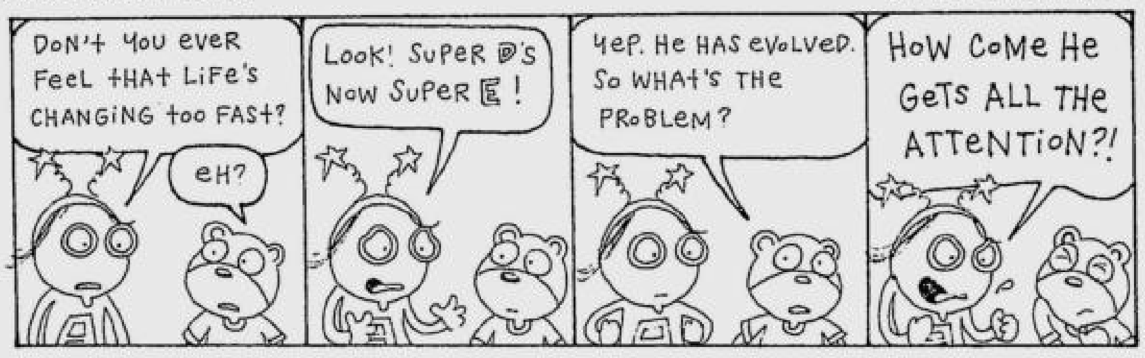
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ALAM MO KUNG BAKIT THE BEST ANG KATOLISISMO?!
BAKIT?
HINDI INUTOS NG DYOS AMA SA ATIN NA GAYAHIN NATIN SI JESUS NA...
MAGPAPAKO RIN TAYO SA KRUS PARA PUMUNTA TAYO SA LANGIT!!
AY, SALAMAT PO DYOSKO!!

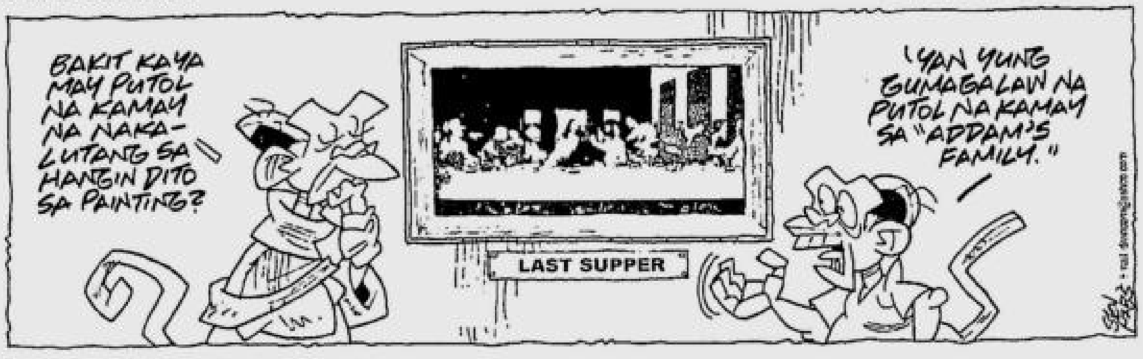
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


DON'T YOU EVER FEEL THAT LIFE'S CHANGING TOO FAST?
EH?
LOOK! SUPER D'S NOW SUPER E!
YEP. HE HAS EVOLVED. SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
HOW COME HE GETS ALL THE ATTENTION?!

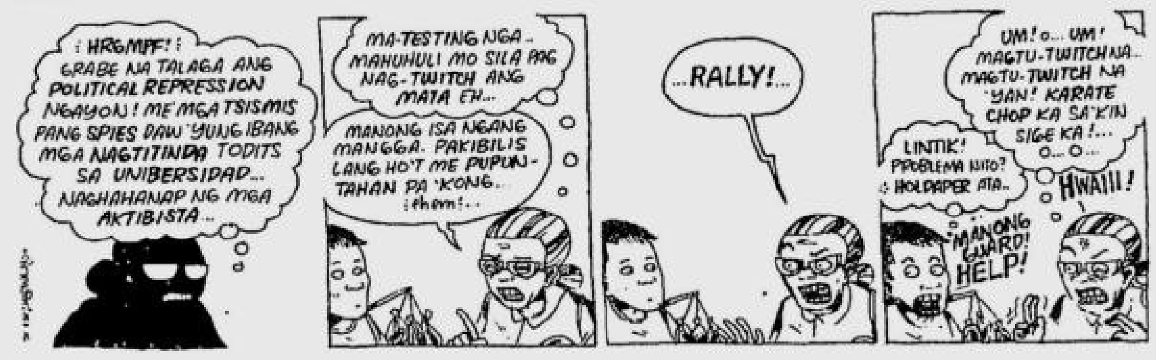
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


BAKIT KAYA MAY PUTOL NA KAMAY NA NAKA-LUTANG SA HANGIN DITO SA PAINTING?
'YAN YUNG GUMAGALAW NA PUTOL NA KAMAY SA "ADDAM'S FAMILY."
LAST SUPPER

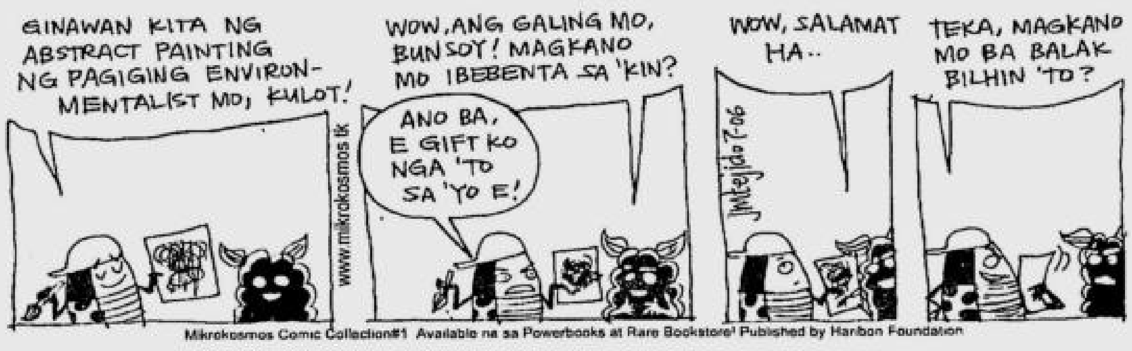
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


¡HRGMPF!¡ GRABE NA TALAGA ANG POLITICAL REPRESSION NGAYON! ME' MGA TSISMIS PANG SPIES DAW 'YUNG IBANG MGA NAGTITINDA TODITS SA UNIBERSIDAD... NAGHAHANAP NG MGA AKTIBISTA...
MA-TESTING NGA.. MAHUHULI MO SILA PAG NAG-TWITCH ANG MATA EH...
MANONG ISA NGANG MANGGA. PAKIBILIS LANG HO'T ME PUPUNTAHAN PA 'KONG. ¡ehem!..
...RALLY!...
UM! o... UM! MAGTU-TWITCH NA.. MAGTU-TWITCH NA 'YAN! KARATE CHOP KA SA'KIN SIGE KA!... o... o...
LINTIK! PROBLEMA NITO? ¡ HOLDAPER ATA..
HWAIII!
MANONG GUARD! HELP!

MIKROKOSMOS

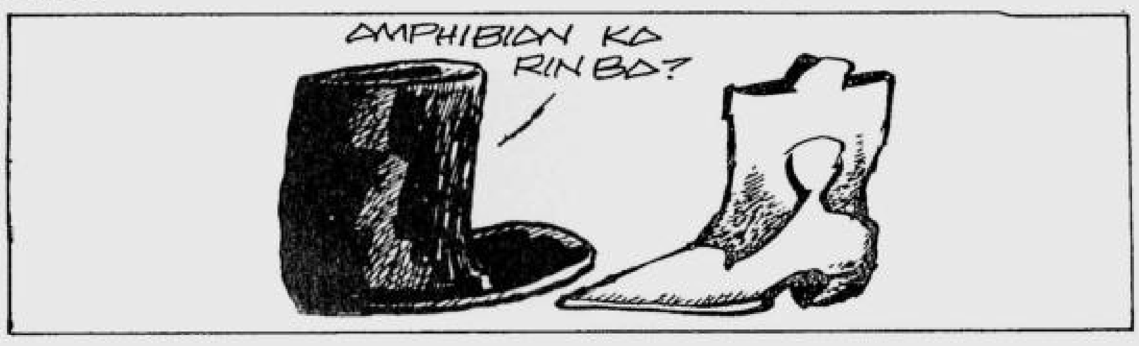
BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


GINAWAN KITA NG ABSTRACT PAINTING NG PAGIGING ENVIRON-MENTALIST MO, KULOT!
WOW, ANG GALING MO, BUNSOY! MAGKANO MO IBEBENTA SA 'KIN?
ANO BA, E GIFT KO NGA 'TO SA 'YO E!
WOW, SALAMAT HA..
TEKA, MAGKANO MO BA BALAK BILHIN 'TO?
www.mikrokosmos.tk

Mikrokosmos Comic Collection#1 Available na sa Powerbooks at Rare Bookstore! Published by Haribon Foundation

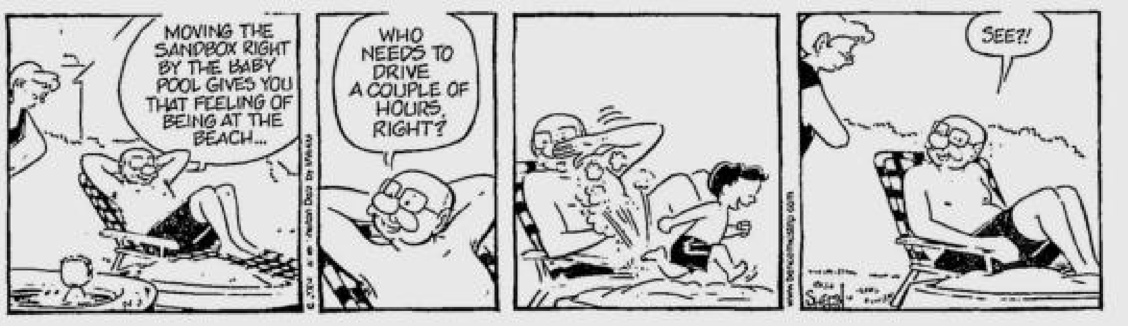
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

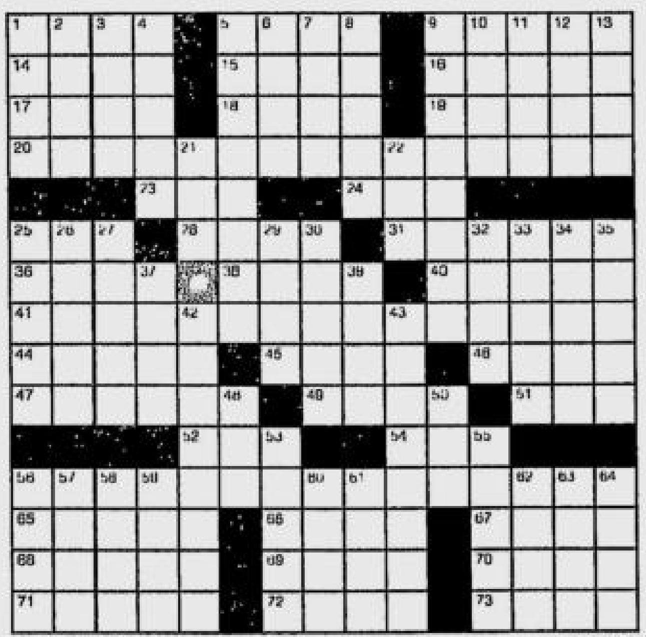

AMPHIBIAN KA RIN BA?

BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


MOVING THE SANDBOX RIGHT BY THE BABY POOL GIVES YOU THAT FEELING OF BEING AT THE BEACH...
WHO NEEDS TO DRIVE A COUPLE OF HOURS, RIGHT?
SEE?!

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Barry Silk
McLean, VA

8/25/06

ACROSS

1 Elec. units
5 Makes choices
9 Handed out
14 Actress Miles
15 Saucy
16 Permeate
17 Bahrain ruler
18 Buffalo's lake
19 Warfare tactic
20 X
23 Coal scuttle
24 Good buddy
25 Chew the fat
28 Pro __ (in proportion)
31 Delight
36 Novelist Bagnold
38 Sound quality
40 __ but wiser
41 X
44 Strainer
45 Honolulu cookout
46 Fair-to-middling
47 Opinion pieces
49 Folk tale
51 Prepared
52 Used to be
54 Unseld or Craven
56 X
65 Choir voice
66 __ never fly!
67 Bright thought
68 Make changes to
69 Way to be tickled
70 Blemish
71 Elias and Julia Ward
72 Health resorts
73 Dropped

DOWN

1 Profess
2 Interoffice note
3 Stiffly formal
4 Singer Vaughan
5 Schedule gap
6 Llama land
7 Barbershop request
8 Pricey
9 Reject as invalid
10 Actor Jannings
11 Watch for the cops, maybe
12 Winter Olympics vehicle
13 Ager of parents?
21 Clause negator
22 Puff Daddy's style
25 Outlaw James
26 Side in a debate
27 Electrical lines
29 Drudgery
30 Per __ (yearly)
32 Building additions
33 So long, in Sonora
34 Perceive
35 Plant fungus
37 Singing star
39 Cyberspace bidding site
42 Sorting aids
43 Leaves behind, in a way
48 Carpentry tool
50 Coop biddy
53 Barbershop sounds
55 Leave without paying
56 Bryce Canyon state
57 Jules Verne's captain
58 Was aware of
59 "And Then There Were __"
60 Trademark ear cleaner
61 Bone of the forearm
62 Between jobs
63 Small duck
64 Ketch's sister

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	E	L	L		A	T	M	O		L	A	G	O	S
A	L	A	E		D	R	E	D		A	S	I	M	O
Y	O	U	S	H	O	U	L	D		S	A	G	A	N
H	I	D	E	A	B	E	D		A	S	P	I	R	E
				Y	E	S		S	R	O				
A	M	P	L	E		T	O	I	N	S	P	I	R	E
C	A	R	E	S	S		R	A	E		E	M	I	R
E	X	O	D		P	R	O	M	S		R	A	G	A
R	I	O	T		H	A	N		S	M	O	R	E	S
B	E	F	O	R	E	Y	O	U		U	T	I	L	E
				A	R	F		N	A	G				
E	X	P	I	R	E		A	D	A	G	E	N	C	Y
R	E	E	S	E		A	N	O	N	Y	M	O	U	S
I	N	A	L	L		S	A	N	D		A	N	T	E
C	A	R	E	Y		S	T	E	W		G	E	E	R

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8/25/06

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're flamboyant and sexy. You have enormous energy for life! You make a strong impression because you're very physical, and yet you're charming. (People remember you.) You know how to use your self-image to promote your career. You're very courageous this way. A major change might take place this year, perhaps as significant as in 1997-98.

Birthdate of: Sean Connery, actor; Rachael Ray, TV cook/host; Tim Burton, director.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You're very keen to get better organized. In order to make the most of this, give yourself the right tools to do a great job. Roll up your sleeves and get to work.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): This is a wonderfully playful month for you. Romance can blossom for some of you. All of you can enjoy sports, movies, the theater, vacations and fun times with children.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Home, family and real estate are increasingly important this month. If you put out energy here, you'll definitely get a payoff. Be patient with family members.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Allow time to see relatives, neighbors and siblings. These people are important in your life. In the next few weeks, chats with relatives and friends will be meaningful.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): This is the time of year to think about what you really want in life. This is not just about shopping and money. It's deeper than that. What makes you happy?

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): With both the Sun and Mars in your sign, you need more physical exercise. Get out and trip the light fantastic. People are impressed with how assured and confident you appear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): As your birthday nears, look back over your previous year to ponder how things are going. How do you want your next year to be different, hmmm?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Accept all invitations. Your popularity rating is increasing now and for the next six weeks. Enjoy good times with others. Be friendly!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Parents, bosses, teachers and authority figures play a greater role in your life in the next few weeks. Listen to what others have to say. You can choose to agree or not.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): You want to learn more now. You want to travel. You want to broaden your horizons. Good! Do anything that will help you feel you're getting more out of life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Deep down you want to do something that improves who you are or how you look. Self-help books and courses might appeal to you now. You're trying to become a better person.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Focus on partnerships and close friendships now. This is where you'll find the best opportunities to learn something new.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

3	7						5	6
6	9						1	2
			2		3			
		3	5		7	8		
		6	4		2	7		
			9		1			
1	2						9	7
4	3						8	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★

8/25

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HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

8	2	7	3	1	5	4	6	9
6	1	3	8	4	9	2	7	5
9	5	4	7	6	2	1	8	3
1	7	9	4	5	3	8	2	6
2	3	6	1	8	7	5	9	4
5	4	8	2	9	6	7	3	1
7	6	2	5	3	1	9	4	8
3	8	5	9	7	4	6	1	2
4	9	1	6	2	8	3	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/24

Unfocused plotting is 'John En Shirley's' weakest link

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WEEKS AFTER IT MADE ITS DEBUT ON Channel 2, how's the "John En Shirley" sitcom doing? We caught the **Dolphy-Susan Roces-Maricel Soriano** starrer again last Saturday, Aug. 19, and came up with this update view:

Maricel comes off better now, because she's warmer and more natural, and doesn't resort to the ack-ack comic delivery that used to be her signature shtick. Good, now she can concentrate on being believable as a wife, mother and office manager.

Dolphy does more energetic work than the phlegmatic performance he turned in during the premiere episode. That's all for the good, too, because he's now in less danger of being upstaged by Susan's feisty portrayal.

Susan was dependable, bubbly and spirited last Aug. 19, but her character didn't figure in the plot as prominently as she should have, so we were disappointed.

The people behind the show should remind themselves that getting Susan Roces to agree to appear in "John En Shirley" was a major casting coup, so viewers expect the veteran actress' talent to be more productively used in the show.

At this point, it's the sitcom's unfocused plotting that appears to be its weakest link. Last week, the "story," such as it was, was a combination of little gambits like John trying to find work, Shirley covering up for her brother's (**Vandolph**) scam at the office *and* fending off an amorous boss' advances, and En(carnacion)'s fetish for talking to her plants. Not very interesting, right?

Instead of these minor inputs, the show should focus on a major problem or issue that many of its lead characters can get involved in and exercised over.

More specifically, we're wondering when the simmering conflict between John and En will finally manifest itself more overtly.

At the moment, they're being relatively polite about their differences of opinion. That's nice and civilized, but it also isn't very funny or telling, so a more vital and visceral disagreement would spice up the show's relatively sedate proceedings.

It would also be great to see Dolphy standing up to Susan, and giving as well as he takes from her. In sitcoms, spice is to be preferred to nice.

Final note: The running gag that is the *matakaw* and *matapobre* characterization of Susan's daughter in the show has run out of steam and comic possibilities. Either give her fresher things to do, or—give her fresher things to do.

Stellar voice cast

THE NEW animated comedy thriller, "Monster House," has a stellar voice cast in **Kathleen Turner**, **Steve Buscemi**, **Maggie Gyllenhaal**, **Kevin James** and **Jason Lee**. Director **Gil Kenan** is proud of the fact that he got a "yes" from everybody he wanted to join the production.

Gyllenhaal voices the role of the babysitter, Zee. Lee plays Bones, **John Heder** is Skull, James is **Officer Landers**, **Nick Cannon** is Officer Lister, Buscemi is Nebbercracker, and Turner is Constance.

In the film, three kids cross over to the other side of the street to battle with a mysterious house that is bent on eating every trick-or-treater in sight on Halloween!

ANDREA SACHS (Anne Hathaway) takes a dictation for Miranda Priestly (Meryl Streep). Miranda is in a coat by Donna Karan; Andrea is in a black silk Chanel.

Devilishly delightful 'Prada'

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

REVIEW

THE HIGH-FASHION ENVIronments depicted in "The Devil Wears Prada" feel so alien, and yet they're very fascinating. Behind the glamorous fashion mag Runway is a small society of well-accessorized, trend-conscious and mannequin-thin staff run by perfectionist editor in chief Miranda Priestly (Meryl Streep). She's a caustic cross between Cruella De Vil and Martha Stewart, a powerful, focused woman who expects everyone to be as driven as she is. In this fable, she hires as second assistant aspiring journalist Andrea "Andy" Sachs (Anne Hathaway), a smart young woman whose taste for less expensive, more typical clothes is promptly—and then constantly—derided in the work place.

Ferocity

With catty ferocity, "Devil" offers a glimpse at the hard work behind the fashion industry, its enigmatic rituals and the eccentricities of one of the most powerful women in the business. Based on the best-selling book by Lauren Weisberger, the film directed by David Frankel ("Sex and the City") tautly explores interwoven issues like female empowerment, career opportunities and personal principles.

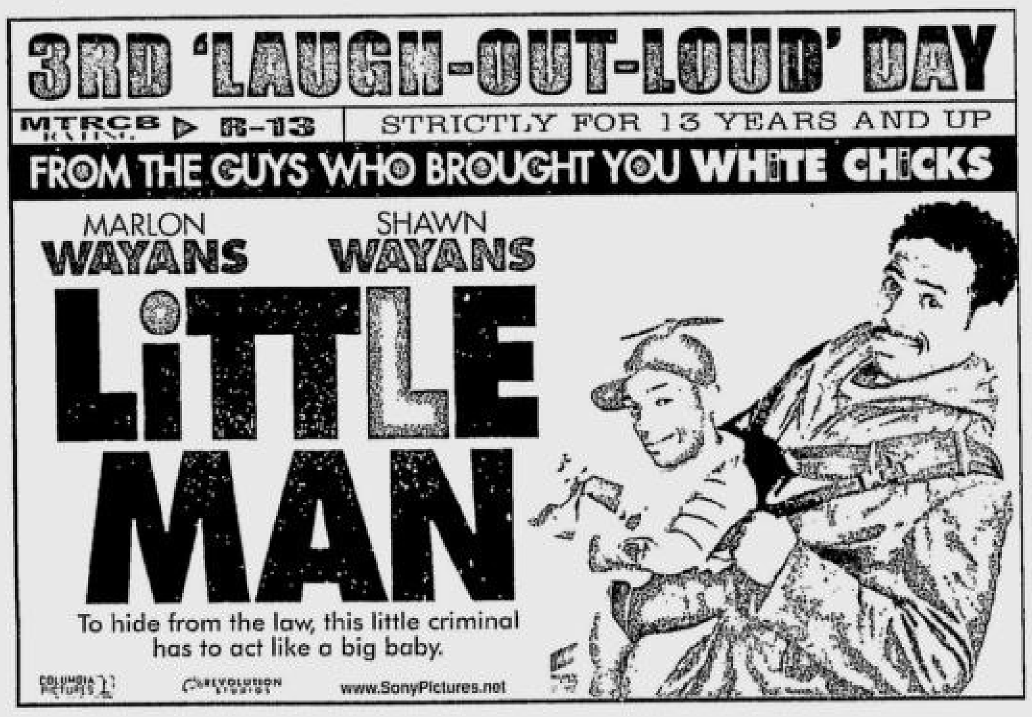
Andy, initially dismissive of the job's more meticulous and seemingly unimportant details, learns a lot about the business through her intimidating boss, as well as Miranda's right-hand man Nigel (Stanley Tucci) and sarcastic co-worker Emily (Emily Blunt). Inner beauty is *not* what the business is about, as she's often mockingly reminded. Beyond the cutting-edge designer threads and killer hairstyles, there's a multi-faceted industry that's serious about setting trends.

"Devil" is a simple but lavishly executed yarn that wonderfully illustrates the inevitable transformation and assimilation of the odd-person-out. Smart and scathing, the script constantly spawns discourses on superficiality, sacrifice and standards. When Andy is made over to match Miranda's high expectations, it's easy to see that the younger woman's relationship with her old close friends and boyfriend (Adrian Grenier) will also change, and not necessarily for the better. But she's now more at ease with running errands in the streets of New York, expertly juggling and anticipating Miranda's many, and growing, demands.

Unwavering

The movie's attention to sharp dressers is aptly unwavering. Runway employees look like they leapt off the pages of chic fashion catalogs, perfectly complementing the glistening hallowed halls of the magazine's offices. Fusing seamlessly with the imagery is the pulsating, pounding music that accompanies nicely edited montages, such as the one where Miranda ditches her bag and jacket at Andy's desk daily.

"The Devil Wears Prada" benefits from the talented and adorable cast; the sneering wisecracks and snappy comebacks are effortlessly dished out. Occasionally heartwarming, cheeky and sad, the film expectedly humanizes the dragon lady, too, and later provides a heretofore unseen side of her that elicits understandable sympathy for the she-devil. It also pointedly and swimmingly documents adventurous Andy's sojourn, the lessons she learned, and the quiet fight to reclaim the soul she unwittingly sold for rent money, acceptance and a better wardrobe.



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MARLON WAYANS SHAWN WAYANS
LITTLE MAN
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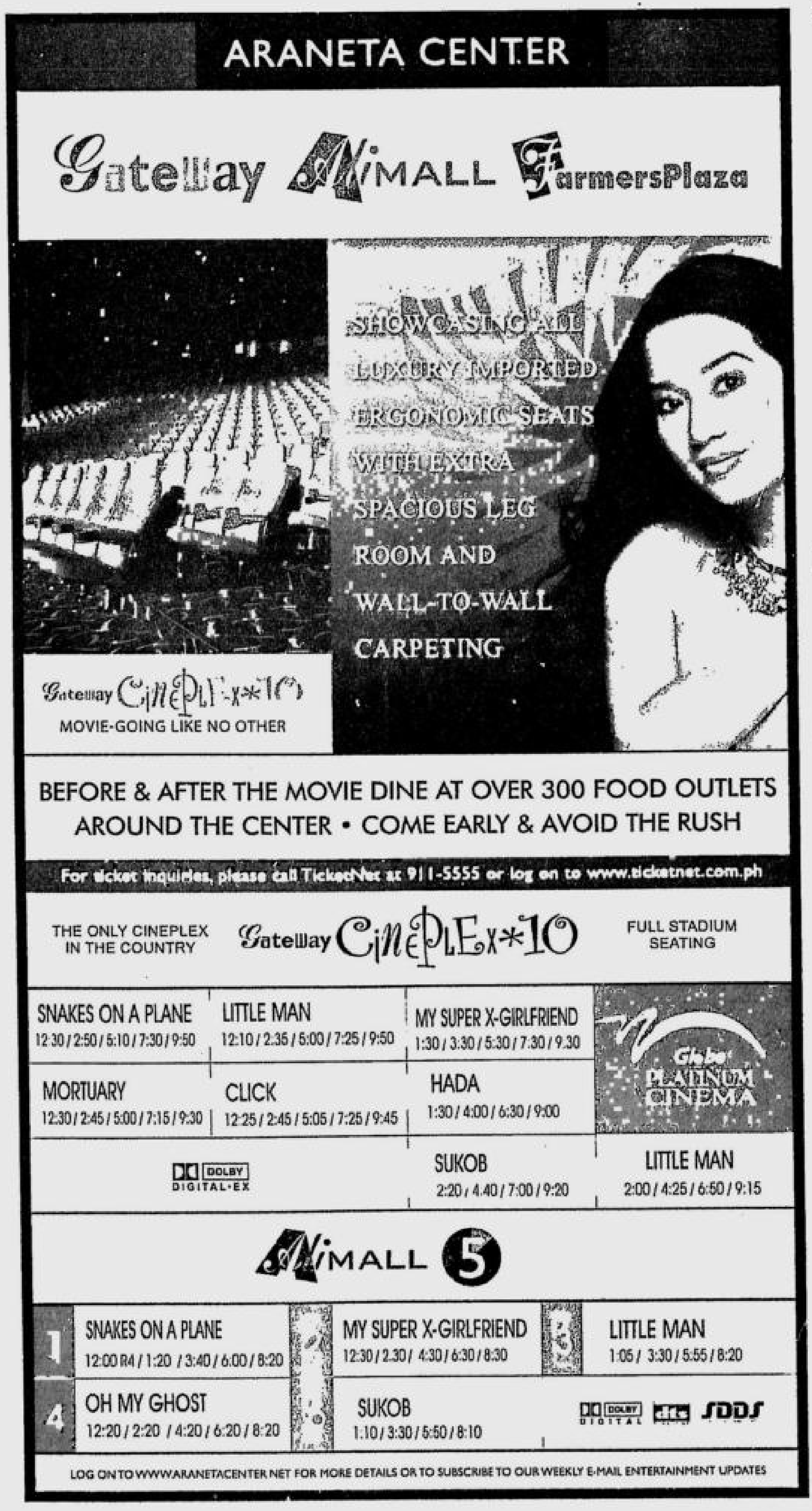

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MY SUPER X-GIRLFRIEND 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9.30
MORTUARY 12:30 / 2:45 / 5:00 / 7:15 / 9:30
CLICK 12:25 / 2:45 / 5:05 / 7:25 / 9:45
HADA 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
Globe PLATINUM CINEMA
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
SUKOB 2:20 / 4.40 / 7:00 / 9:20
LITTLE MAN 2:00 / 4:25 / 6:50 / 9:15
Ali MALL 5
1 SNAKES ON A PLANE 12:00 R4 / 1:20 / 3:40 / 6:00 / 8:20
MY SUPER X-GIRLFRIEND 12:30 / 2.30 / 4:30 / 6:30 / 8:30
LITTLE MAN 1:05 / 3:30 / 5:55 / 8:20
4 OH MY GHOST 12:20 / 2:20 / 4:20 / 6:20 / 8:20
SUKOB 1:10 / 3:30 / 5:50 / 8:10
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS
LOG ON TO WWW.ARANETACENTER.NET FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

Celebrity bazaar falls short of goal

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by August dela Cruz

ORGANIZERS OF CELEBRITY CLEAN House held last week admit that sales from the fundraising event have fallen short of expectations.

"But the support from celebrities and health volunteers was overwhelming," said Roel Andag, program communications manager of the Social Health Care Foundation (SH Care), which put the event together.

The bazaar, held Aug. 16 at the Eastwood City in Quezon City, gathered stuff for sale from show biz and sports stars for the benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society of the Philippines.

"We plan to mount another fundraiser soon. As to how much Clean House made, we'll receive a full report on Friday," Andag told INQUIRER Entertainment on Wednesday.

PROJECT Fussion band helps spread the word about Multiple Sclerosis.

CLOTHES and knick knacks donated by Beverly Salviejo are the bestsellers.

BOOKS donated by award-winning filmmaker Mark Meily

COOKIE Chua of Color It Red actively helps heighten public awareness of MS.

CAGER Patrick Fran, with wife and daughter, checks out his booth.

LIVING Stars

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

sms feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) **or email us at** pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

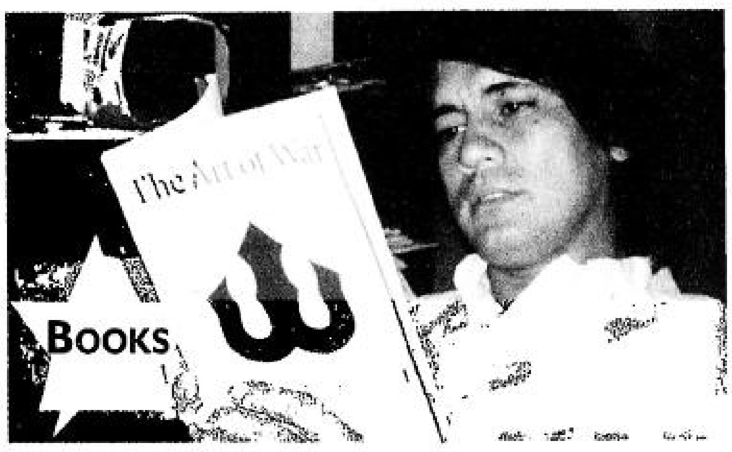
Which young singer calls this home?/G6

INSIDE

Who made Vina's gear?/G4

Why is Zsazsa's hair red?/G2

Why is Mother happy?/G3



RICHARD GOMEZ

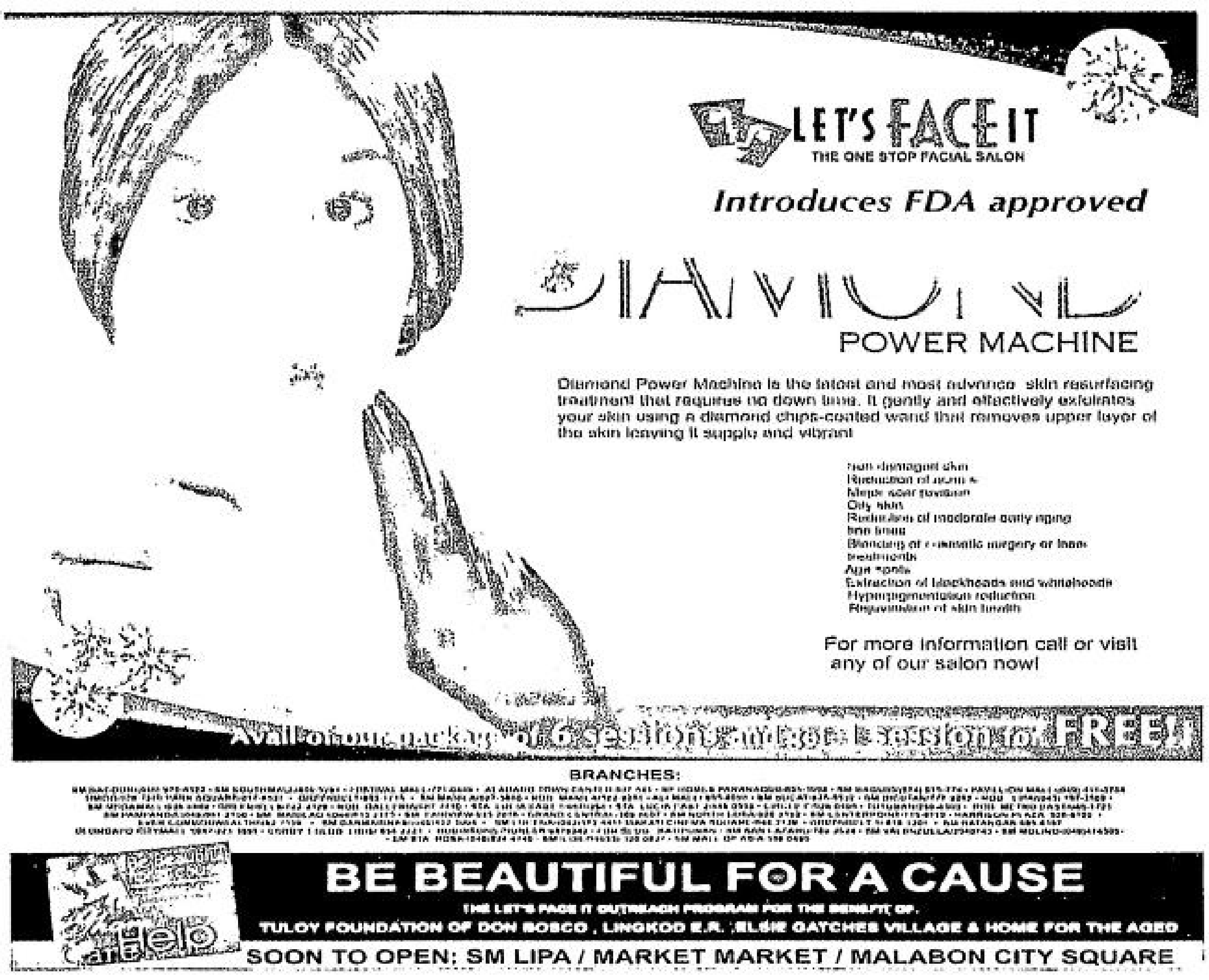
I enjoy reading Sun Tzu's "The Art of War," about how Sun Tzu (Chinese military general and historian in the 2nd century B.C.) conquered nations and men. It also discusses battle strategies, which were first mapped out centuries ago but are still relevant today.

There are different translations of this book. The one I'm reading now is from the Denma Translation Group. I also have copies of translations by James Clavell and Ralph D. Sawyer.

Marinel R. Cruz

DID YOU KNOW...

- For shoes and bags, Rufa Mae Quinto trusts only Vuitton, Dior, Gucci and Fendi.
- Singer Christian Bautista, a landscape architecture graduate of UP, designed a portion of the Bautista compound's sprawling lawn in Imus, Cavite.
- Cesar Montano and Diether Ocampo both lug Mac laptops in which they keep photos of their kids.



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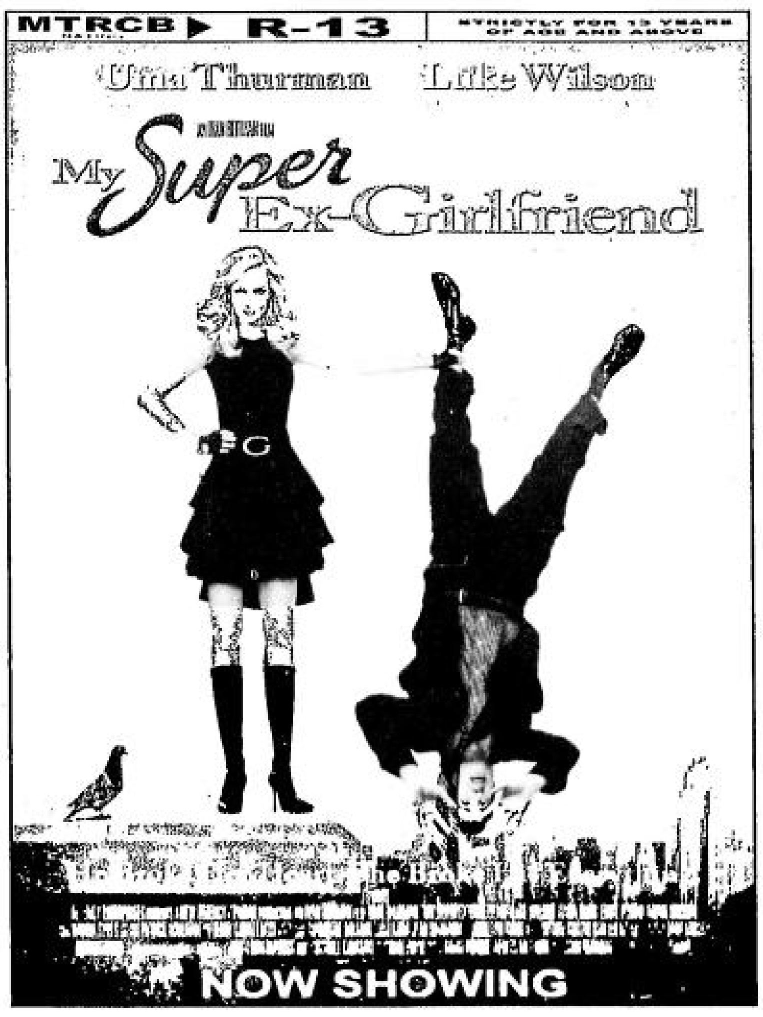

MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE
Uma Thurman Luke Wilson
My Super Ex-Girlfriend
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ON ITS 2ND WEEK!
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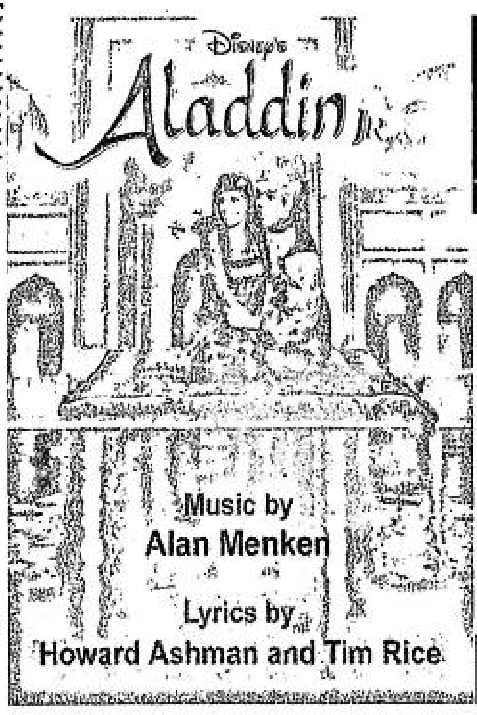

Disney's Aladdin JR.

Music by
Alan Menken
Lyrics by
Howard Ashman and Tim Rice

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and the City of Makati
in cooperation with
Ayala Malls CINEMAS
present

Directed by
Joy Virata

Choreographed by
Douglas Nierras

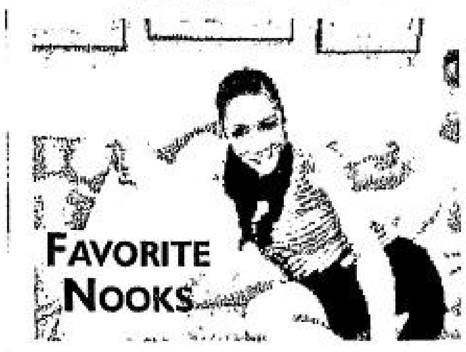
August 17, 18, 19 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28 & 31

Onstage, Greenbelt 1, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
For inquiries, please call 887-0710 / 891-9999

SNEAK PEEK

'Zaturnnah' unveiled

Zsazsa Padilla gives Living Stars a first look at her "Zsazsa Zaturnnah" costume. The ultra-sexy outfit was crafted by Maxi Cinco; the "showgirl" makeup, by Jerome Chang. "Maxi got the red wig in Hong Kong!" Zsazsa reports. This photo was taken at her first makeup and costume test at the Regal office. She found that her bra size had shrunk (the role requires a cup D). *Bayani San Diego Jr.*



FAVORITE NOOKS

PIA GUANIO

The couch is my favorite nook. This is where I do almost everything—watch television, eat lunch or supper, play with my dog, Snoop. Sometimes I sleep here, too. It is so worn out, old and cushy.

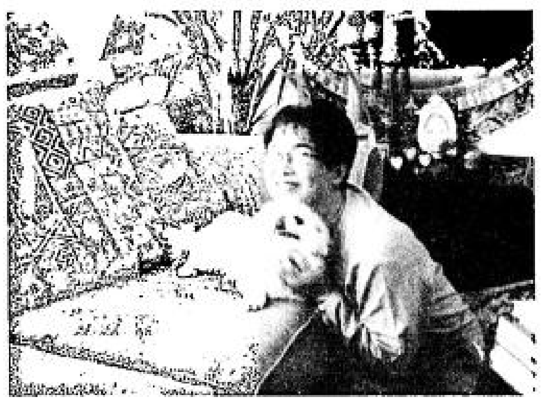
Marinel R. Cruz

TAIL TALES

FANNY SERRANO

"It was love at first sight. I named my dog Asus because when I saw her in a pet store in Robinsons Galleria, my initial reaction was: '*Asus*, you're so cute!' The name somehow stuck. My mom, who has taken it upon herself to be Asus' official guardian, spoils her, while I have to act as a disciplinarian. When I rushed her to the vet recently, my mom was hysterical. Turned out, it was only an eye infection. Asus, a Japanese Chin, outlived my other pets, Fluffy, a Chihuahua, and Polo, a Japanese Spitz. Needless to say, Asus is the feistiest among them."

Bayani San Diego Jr.



MTRCB PG-13

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

Meryl STREEP Anne HATHAWAY

"IRRESISTIBLE!"

OPENS AUGUST 30

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! Ayala Malls

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Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

THX

G1	GLORIETTA 1	1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	2 SNAKES ON THE PLANE	3 MORTUARY	4 LITTLE MAN
G4	GLORIETTA 4	1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	2 CLICK	3 THX SNAKES ON THE PLANE 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
		4 FREEDOMLAND	5 KUBRADOR	6 LITTLE MAN	7 SUKOB
GB1	GREENBELT 1	1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	2 SNAKES ON THE PLANE		
GB3	GREENBELT 3	1 THX LITTLE MAN 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SNAKES ON THE PLANE 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20, 11:25 GUARANTEED SEATS		
		3 MIAMI VICE 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 CLICK 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:50, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX SNAKES ON THE PLANE	2 LITTLE MAN		
		3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	4 AMERICAN DREAMZ	5 CLICK	
ACC	AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 SNAKES ON THE PLANE	2 LITTLE MAN	3 AMERICAN DREAMZ	4 FIERCE PEOPLE
M2	MARKET! MARKET!	1 SNAKES ON THE PLANE	2 THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2		
		3 OH MY GHOST	4 LITTLE MAN	5 SUKOB	

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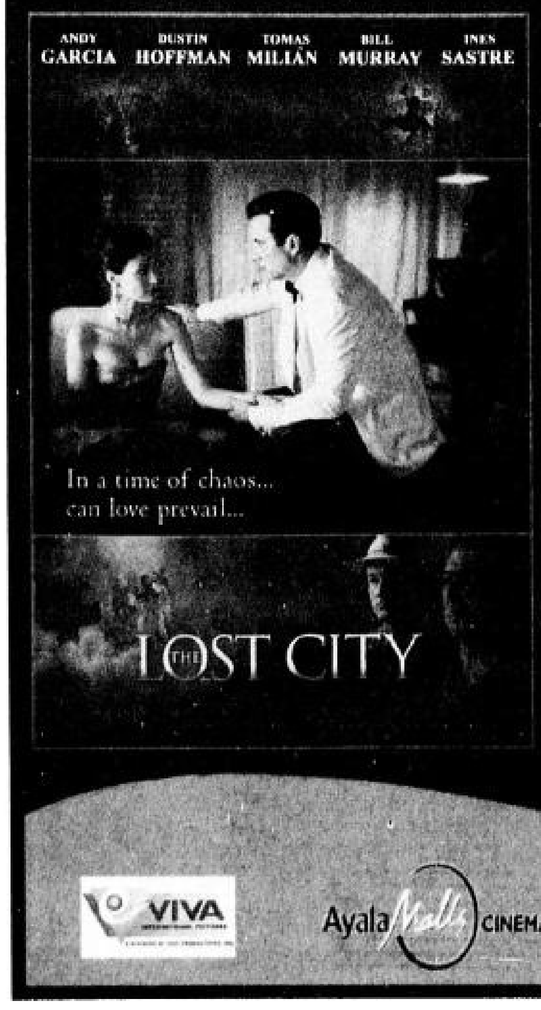

ANDY GARCIA DUSTIN HOFFMAN TOMAS MILIAN BILL MURRAY INES SASTRE

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can love prevail...

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OPENS AUGUST 30
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A film by Academy Award-nominee Andy Garcia

THE LOST CITY

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"Two Thumbs Up."
- Ebert & Roeper

"Sumptuous, Intoxicating...A Caribbean Doctor Zhivago."
-Steven Holden, New York Times

"The best movie I've seen so far this year"
-Todd Hill, Newhouse News

MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13

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glorietta ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET!

A gift from mom to Aaron

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

THE REST HOUSE on this one-hectare property in Calamba, Laguna, was a welcome present from his mom when young singer Aaron Agassi returned to the Philippines after four years in the United States.

"Mom didn't tell me when she bought this place. I was surprised when I returned," said Aaron, who flew to the US in 1997 to finish grade school.

HOME BODY

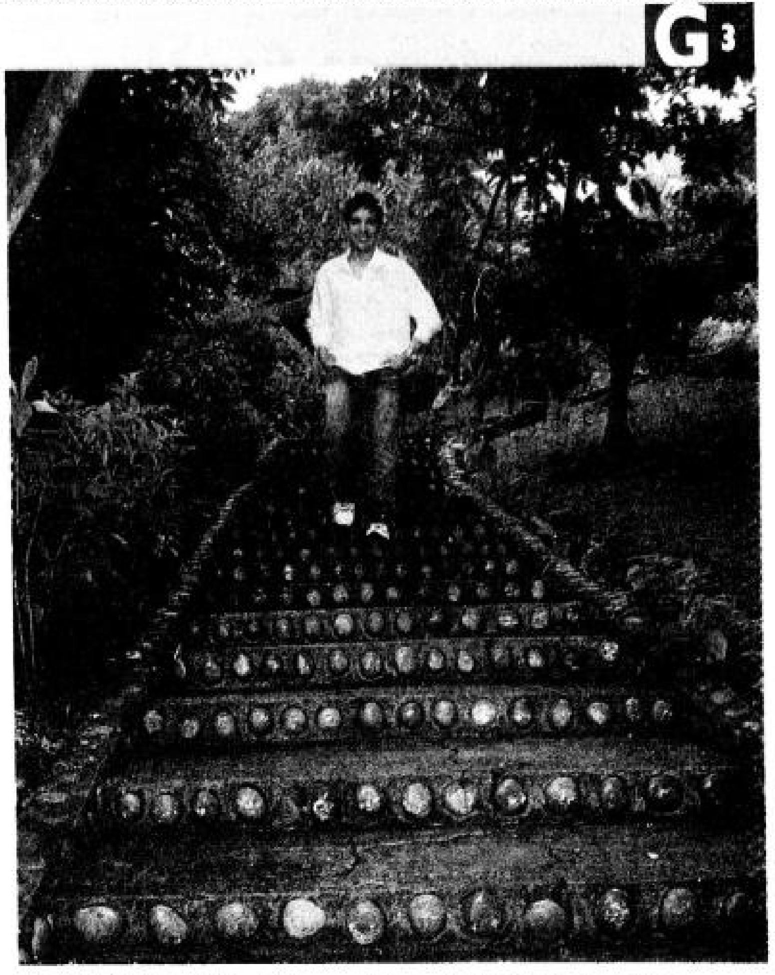
Now 17, Aaron says Villa Rowenah is the best place to relax, and to bond with his brothers Carlos and Michael. The villa is complete with a swimming pool, gym, recreation area, aviary and a garden.

"We spend Christmas and hold important family gatherings here. Sometimes I also invite my friends from school and work," the singer told Living Stars during our visit last week.

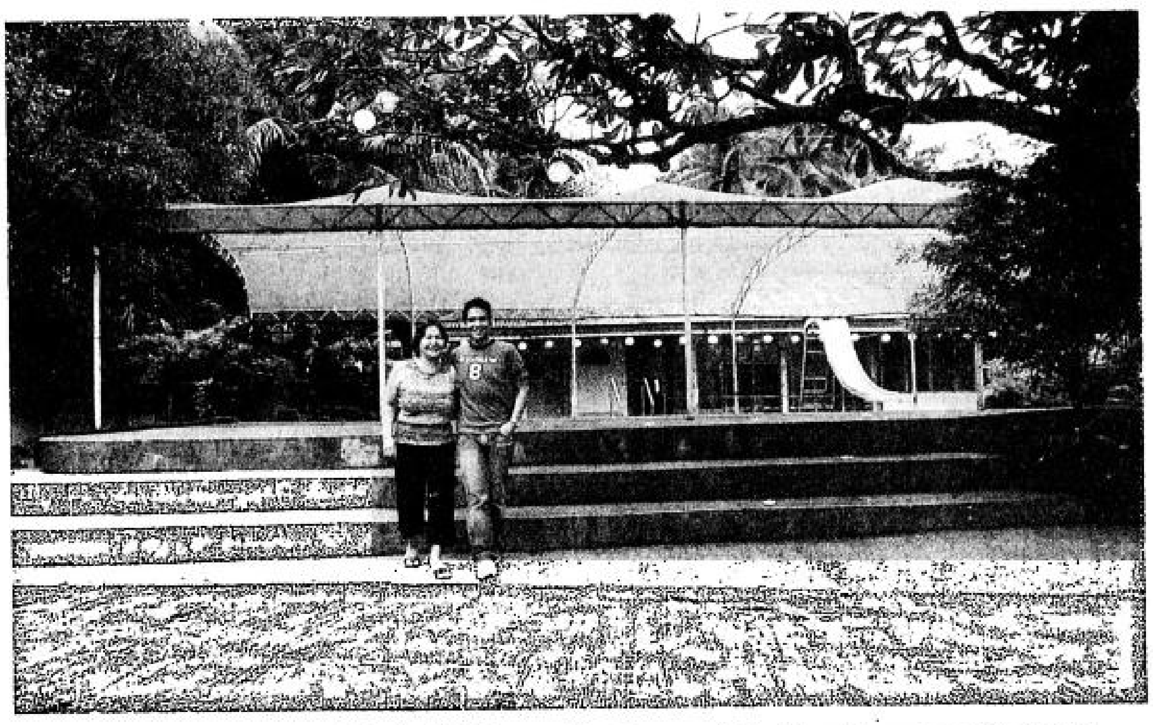
Aaron's favorite spot is, no doubt, the karaoke kiosk, where he spends most of his time. He has just released his debut album, "Right Next To Me," under Universal Records.

On weekdays, the Agassis stay in their Makati City home. "[But] we hardly see each other. We just go there to sleep," said Aaron. "When we're here, we can take it easy."

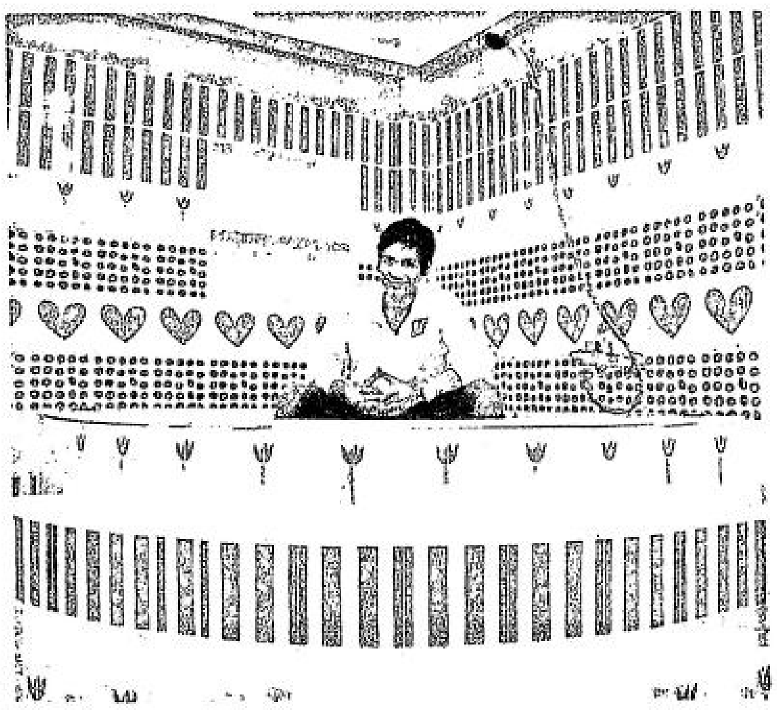
THE FIVE-BEDROOM house used to look so dark. "We widened the windows, added lights and painted the walls with bright colors," says Aaron's mom Rowena.



PAVED PATHWAY leads to a grotto amidst fruit-bearing trees.

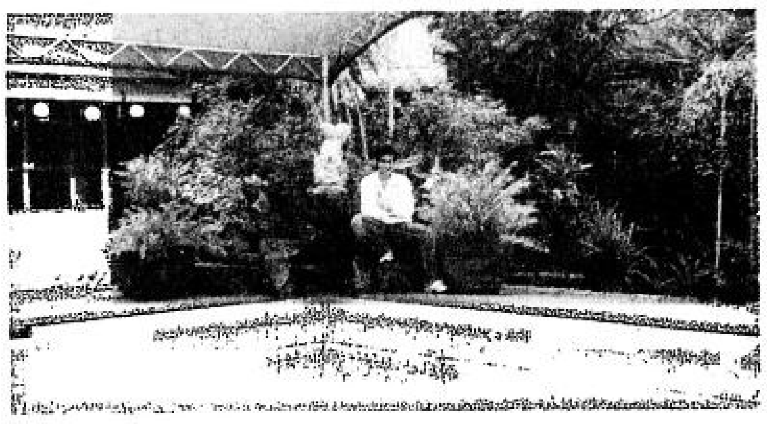


ONLY AN HOUR'S drive from Manila, Villa Rowenah is also open to families who may want to spend weekends. Aaron walks around the property with mom.



ROWENA BELIEVES bright colors help put visitors at ease. This is the guest bathroom.

THE UNVARNISHED center table cost P25,000. It is made of acacia wood, which Rowena bought in Calamba. A fallen chico tree in the backyard was made into side tables.



THIS SWIMMING pool has hot spring water.

BLUEATHLETIC
8

HIS FAVORITE place, the karaoke kiosk, where he spends a lot of time.

THIS IS the biggest bedroom, where Aaron sleeps when the whole clan is here.

THE NARRA closet used to belong to Aaron's grandma. On top is a precious wooden artpiece, which is now mass-produced for export.

Mother's double celebration

PARTY! PARTY!

REGAL FILMS PRODUCER Lily Monteverde had two big reasons to celebrate this month.

On Aug. 18, she marked the 10th anniversary of her Quezon City hotel Imperial Palace, and her nth birthday (which falls on Aug. 19), with a star-studded shebang.

Mother, as she is called in show biz circles, was grinning from ear to ear as celebs regaled her corporate guests with musical numbers.

"It's a great feeling," she told Living Stars before flying to the United States for a vacation. "I got to combine my two worlds—entertainment and the hotel/travel industries."

Bayani San Diego Jr.

MOTHER Lily beams as she greets her guests.

PHOTOS BY RUDY ESPERAS

LIFE OF the party, Annabelle Rama

SINGER Tin Arnaldo

IYA Villania, "U Can Dance" host

IN FULL "Eternity" regalia, Iza Calzado and Dingdong Dantes.

"PBB" first-edition housemates Say Alonzo, Uma Khouny and Nene Tamayo

WITH ABS-CBN hunk AJ Dee

DENNIS Trillo and Giselle Sanchez emcee impromptu program.

BIRTHDAY girl flanked by "Zsazsa Zaturnnah" co-stars Pops Fernandez and Rustom Padilla.

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2 CLICK
3 LITTLE MAN
4 SNAKE ON A PLANE
5 MORTUARY/ MIAMI VICE
6 OH MY GHOST
PREMIERE CINEMA
SUKOB
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
THE PODIUM
CINEMA 1
SNAKE ON A PLANE
CINEMA 2
MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
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SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 SUKOB
3 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 SUKOB
6 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
7 CLICK
8 OH MY GHOST
9 MORTUARY
10 MIAMI VICE
11 CLICK
12 LITTLE MAN

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 LITTLE MAN
2 MIAMI VICE
3 SNAKE ON A PLANE
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 CLICK
6 MORTUARY
7 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
8 KUBRADOR
9 OH MY GHOST
10 SUKOB
11 STORMBREAKER
12 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 KUBRADOR
2 CLICK
3 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
4 MORTUARY
5 OH MY GHOST
6 LITTLE MAN
7 SNAKE ON A PLANE
8 SUKOB
9 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
10 STORMBREAKER
11 MIAMI VICE
12 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 LITTLE MAN
4 CLICK
5 SUKOB
6 KUBRADOR
7 MIAMI VICE
8 MORTUARY
9 OH MY GHOST
10 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 CLICK
4 MORTUARY
5 LITTLE MAN
6 SUKOB

SM CITY SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 LITTLE MAN
3 CLICK
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 SUKOB
6 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
7 FIERCE PROPLE
8 MORTUARY
9 OH MY GHOST

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 LITTLE MAN
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
4 MORTUARY

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 LITTLE MAN
2 CLICK
3 MORTUARY
4 SUKOB
5 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
6 SNAKE ON A PLANE
7 KUBRADOR
8 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
9 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
10 MIAMI VICE
11 OH MY GHOST
12 STORMBREAKER

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323201-04
1 LITTLE MAN
2 SUKOB
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
4 STORMBREAKER

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 LITTLE MAN
2 MIAMI VICE
3 SUKOB
4 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 LITTLE MAN
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 SUKOB
4 SNAKE ON A PLANE

movietime

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MARLON WAYANS SHAWN WAYANS
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COLUMBIA PICTURES

MTRCB Rating: R-13

LUZON

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
2 STORMBREAKER
3 CLICK
4 LITTLE MAN

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 LITTLE MAN
2 MIAMI VICE
3 SUKOB
4 OH MY GHOST

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 KUBRADOR
2 LITTLE MAN
3 SNAKE ON A PLANE
4 OH MY GHOST
5 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
6 SUKOB
7 CLICK
8 PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 CLICK
2 LITTLE MAN
3 ANT BULLY
4 SUKOB

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 THE BREAK-UP
2 AMERICAN HAUNTING
3 JUST MY LUCK
4 LOVEWRECKED

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 MIAMI VICE
2 LITTLE MAN
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
4 CLICK
5 KUBRADOR
6 SUKOB

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)8637681-85
1 SUKOB
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 OH MY GHOST
4 LITTLE MAN
5 KUBRADOR
6 BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 CLICK
2 SNAKE ON A PLANE
3 OH MY GHOST
4 MORTUARY

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5341265-66
1 JUST MY LUCK
2 SUKOB
3 LITTLE MAN
4 STORMBREAKER

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
2 SNAKE ON A PLANE
3 MIAMI VICE
4 AMERICAN DREAMZ
5 KUBRADOR
6 FIERCE PEOPLE
7 SUKOB
8 LITTLE MAN

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 STORMBREAKER
2 RESERVED
3 SUKOB
4 AMERICAN DREAMZ
5 CLICK
6 LITTLE MAN
7 RESERVED
8 JUST MY LUCK

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 MIAMI VICE
2 SUKOB
3 LITTLE MAN
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 THE BREAK-UP
6 ANT BULLY

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 MIAMI
2 CLICK
3 ANT BULLY
4 LITTLE MAN

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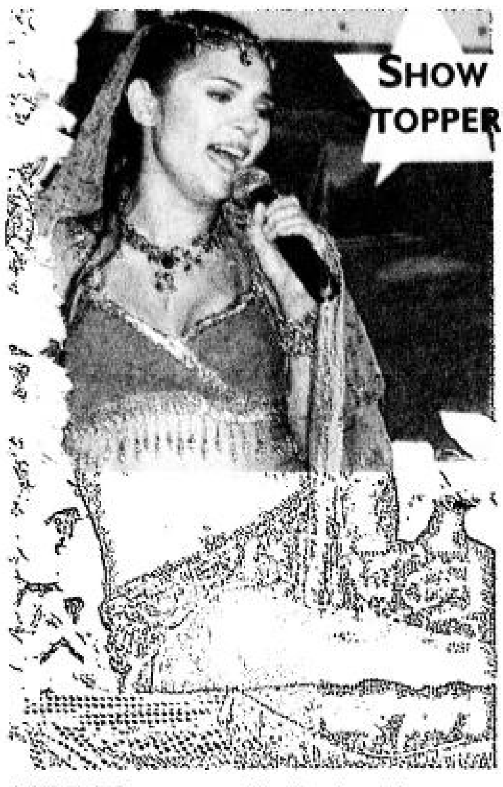
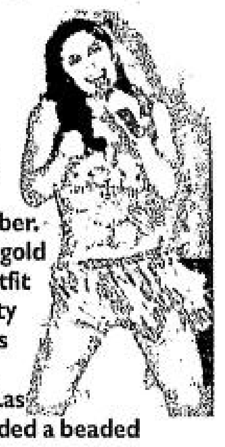
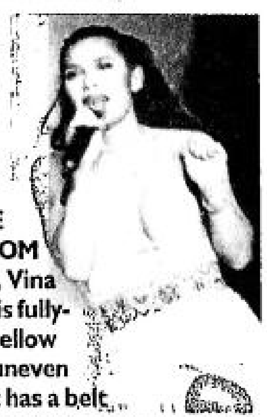


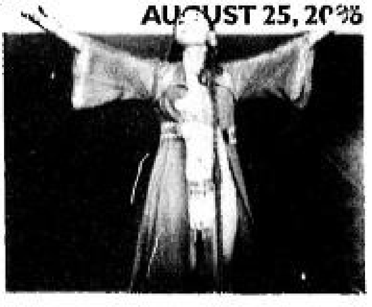
THIS BRA, sarong and Indian headdress with veil were for the Bollywood segment. The outfit is in aqua blue and silver. It also has beads and rhinestones. The sarong is ankle length. PHOTOS BY RUDY ESPERAS



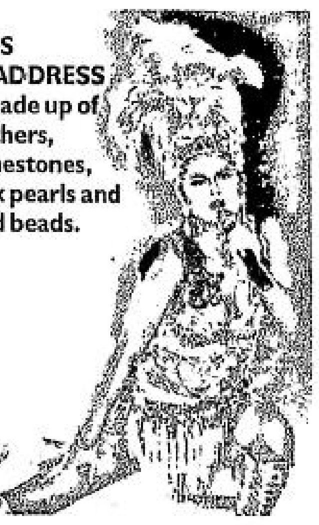
VINA WORE this for the opening number. It's the same gold two-piece outfit in the publicity photos. It was inspired by showgirls in Las Vegas. I included a beaded rope, "para mas sexy."



FOR THE BALLROOM segment, Vina was in this fully-beaded yellow dress of uneven length. It has a belt for an accent, in colors orange, fuchsia and gold.



SHE DONNED this opera coat in the second segment. It's made of copper and gold, and has beadwork on the sleeves, collar and waist.



THIS HEADDRESS is made up of feathers, rhinestones, faux pearls and gold beads.

Showgirl gear

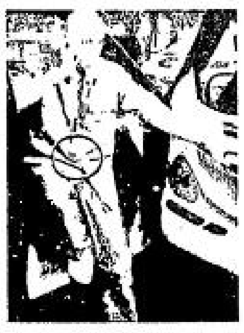
SINGER-ACTRESS Vina Morales commissioned designer Edwin Uy to make all these jaw-dropping outfits for her major solo concert, "Showgirl," last week at the Big Dome. Edwin described his creations for INQUIRER Entertainment.

Marinel R. Cruz

CLICK!

WHAT'S WITH these guys? Borgy Manotoc wears one. So do Vhong Navarro, KC Montero, Marc Abaya, Ketchup Eusebio, Archie Alemania and heaven knows who else. What do they count with these clickers? Let us guess:

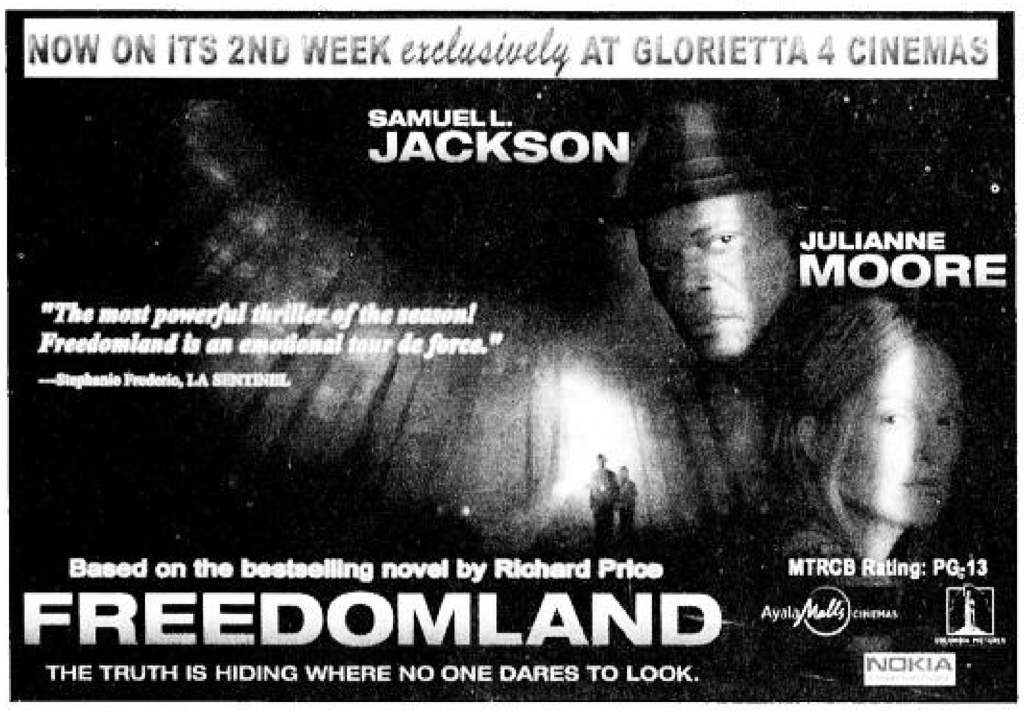
VHONG: Jokes



KC: Spiels

KETCHUP: Balls pocketed

BORGY: Conquests



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